

THE Hongkong Weekly Press

AND China Overland Trade Report.

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BIRTHS.

On January 4th, at Hankow, the wife of F. L. HARRISON, of a son.
On January 5th, at H.B.M. Consulate-General, SEUL, the wife of W. Merrick Hewlett, of a son.
On January 9th, at Shanghai, the wife of D. W. CRAWFORD, of a daughter.
On January 9th, at Foochow, the wife of G. SIEMSEN, Esq., H.G.M.'s Consul, of a daughter.
On January 10th, at Shanghai, the wife of EDWARD E. PARSONS, of a daughter.
On January 14th, at Shanghai, the wife of ARTHUR BUGH, of a son.

MARRIAGES.

On January 5th, at Chungking, West China, JOHN STENHOUSE, of Shanghai, to ELSIE HUNT.
On January 5th, at Chinkiang, IYON TUXFORD to CHEVENING, only daughter of the late Frederick Knight-Gregson of Chinkiang.

DEATHS.

On January 9th, at Shanghai, BELLARMINA MARIA, widow of the late A. A. da Cruz, of Macao, aged 54 years.
On January 13th, at Shanghai, EMILY GODDING BELBIN, on her 61st birthday.
On January 14th, at the Government Civil Hospital, JOAQUIM MODESTO DA SILVA, aged 72 years.
On January 14th, at Shanghai, WILLIAM SEYMOUR WALLACE, aged 21 years.

Hongkong Weekly Press.

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ARRIVAL OF MAILS.

The German mail of December 18th arrived, per the ss. *Gneisenau* on Thursday, the 17th instant; and the French mail of December 21st is expected to arrive, per the ss. *Tourane*, tomorrow.

FAR EASTERN NEWS.

A Chinese in Mukden has petitioned for the right to build a railway from Kaiyuan to Hailung in Manchuria.

Mr. E. A. W. von Stranch has been appointed acting commissioner of Customs at the newly-opened port of Nanning.

The Hon Mr. F. H. May, C.M.G., has been mentioned as a likely personage for the position of Lieutenant Governor of Ceylon.

The *Straits Times* argues that it is nearly as important for Chinamen to cut off their queues as it is for Chinawomen to grow natural feet.

The *Gazette* notifies that memorials of re-entry by the Government of Lots Nos. 171, 172, 291, 292, 293, and 358 in Survey district four, New Kowloon, have been registered according to law.

The receipts into the Treasury between January 1st and October 31st, 1906, total \$31,618,856.23, while the payments out amount to \$28,702,645.54, leaving a balance of receipts over payments of \$2,916,210.79.

The extract of meteorological observations made at the Hongkong Observatory during the month of December shows that the average maximum temperature of the month was 68.9, and the minimum 59.6 deg., while the rainfall was 660 inches.

A Singapore Chinaman, charged with stealing poultry, declared he had bought the hens, but could not produce the seller. He said: "May I be run down and killed by a tram and never see China again, if I stole the fowls." He was sent to prison for two months.

A schoolboy, who was only fourteen years of age, was convicted of burglary before Mr. Hazeland at the Magistracy on Jan. 17 and sent to prison. He entered a house at 5 Mercer Street early in the morning and filled a box with money, clothing and jewelry to the value of \$64. Unfortunately for his scheme he was detected leaving the house.

Peking recently issued a Decree "exhorting the officials of the Empire to be more honest and careful of the masses under them, as the discontent and uprisings in the provinces have been due to the avarice, dishonesty and neglect of the officials; any one disobeying the Imperial commands in the future will be severely dealt with without mercy."

A highway robbery in Hongkong was reported to the police on Jan. 14. As a hawker was on his way from Pokfulam to the city he was stopped by three men, apparently unarmed, who threw pepper in his eyes and beat him. They robbed him of all the money he had on his person, two dollars and seventy cents, and escaped. No arrest has yet been made.

Prince Ukhtomsky, whose connection with the Russo-Chinese Bank makes him very interested in the Far East, thinks that "the closing of the port of Vladivostok will do much harm to Russians settled in Eastern Siberia, for it will make all kinds of merchandise dear for them; but, judging from the tone which now obtains in Government circles, there is hardly any doubt but that the port will be closed."

The daily share quotations show that since the announcement of the intention to increase the capital of the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation there has been a strong demand for this "gilt edged security." In two days the quotation on the local market has jumped up \$80, the shares being now quoted at \$925 buyers. The London quotation is £115—an advance of £16 10s. in two days.

In extraordinary meeting assembled, the shareholders of the Weihaiwei Gold Mining Co., Ltd., decided on January 10th: "That it has been proved to the satisfaction of this meeting that the Company cannot by reason of its liabilities continue its business, and that it is advisable to wind up the same, and accordingly that the Company be wound up voluntarily: And that Louis Rudolph Burkhardt of Shanghai be and he is hereby appointed liquidator for the purposes of such winding up."

At Singapore on January 7th a revenue officer was examining the luggage of several Chinese coolies, who had just landed from Bagan, Sumatra. One of the coolies, a Hokien, had a pillow wrapped up in a mat and while prodding it with his fingers to see if the pillow contained any opium, the officer felt something hard. He ripped open the pillow and was horrified at finding a grinning skull staring at him. He took the Hokien to the Police Station, and, on examining the pillow, the police found all the bones of a human skeleton. The Hokien stated that the bones were those of his elder brother who had died at Bagan. He declared that he was taking the bones back to China for burial.

We are informed by Messrs. Melchers and Co., the local agents of the Norddeutscher Lloyd, Bremen, that the Company's steamer *Sachsen* is expected to arrive here on an extra trip on the 2nd of February. For the homeward voyage the whole first class on this boat has been engaged by His Majesty the King of Siam, who is going to spend the summer 1907 in Europe. Although the first class is engaged the steamer will carry second class passengers as usual. The dates of the departure for the homeward voyage are fixed as follows: from Yokohama on the 20th of March, Hongkong on the 27th of March, and Singapore on the 2nd of April. The steamer will not call at Shanghai.

If Sir Matthew Nathan's administration in Hongkong were remembered by nothing but the Civil Service List it would still be indicative of the personality of His Excellency. Useful and valuable information is therein compressed in the smallest possible space. There is not an unnecessary word in the whole production, especially under the heading of "historical and statistical." This part is a succinct but nevertheless interesting history of the Colony, brought up to the end of 1905, and a no less instructive table giving such figures as the total of shipping entered, the revenue and expenditure, population, and the amounts spent under public health, public instruction, public order and defence during each year. Part I has been enlarged this year to include an index to sessional papers from 1879 to 1906 and a Bibliography of Hongkong. It is noteworthy that works on Politics are the most numerous in the list, those on history coming next in point of number. This, the third issue, is characterised with the same comprehensiveness and accuracy as its predecessors, and is a credit to its compilers.

SZECHWAN.

(Daily Press, 12th January.)

While repudiation of engagements is only too common all over China, and may be said to have its headquarters in the Liangkwaug, where under a series of incapable but truculent viceroys it has had abundant opportunities of development, it cannot be said to be absent from any of the provinces and recently has been assuming a more than ordinarily virulent form in Szechwan. This is the more to be regretted that up till recently Szechwan was not only the most prosperous and well ordered province in China, but that the province as a whole had been entirely free from those occasional outbursts of ignorant fanaticism which remain to show how little below the surface has penetrated the modern affectation of advance. This is doubtless not so much to be wondered at as to be regretted, the more so when we find that Japan with all her real grasp of modern science and cultivation is yet unable to free herself from the old bonds of superstition, and would, so far as the mass of her people are concerned, willingly close all the avenues of approach from the rest of the world, and shut herself up as exclusively as she did in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. China, of course, still has dreams of the time when she was the acknowledged head of Oriental civilisation, and when without any open display of force she was able to dominate by the mere show of the superiority of her culture the whole of Asia east of the Pamirs, and north of the Himalayas. She, however, in all this forgets one essential thing. Although it is true that for centuries she maintained her position through the mere moral power of her superior culture, it was not by moral force that she originally gained it. She had had to undergo a long, and for centuries undecided, struggle for bare existence at the hands of her Turkish neighbours, and it was only in the first century B.C. when HAN WU-TI had put down by the superiority of his arms the last trace of hostile resistance, that China's moral ascendancy can be said to have commenced. Naturally the same causes which conduced to China's unchallenged superiority during medieval times, ceased to act as soon as she was brought into contact with the relatively more powerful, physically and morally, culture of modern Europe. If during the reign of HAN WU-TI, China's warlike prestige enabled her to extend her influence up to the boundaries of Parthia, a very similar condition of affairs was seen but with the actors reversed, when in the first half of the nineteenth century the similar prestige of the European nations led them gradually to bring their influence to bear for the first time on China herself. China attempted to resent this interference in her dream of fancied superiority, but got sadly worsted in the struggle. The reason she never succeeded in seeing. PYGMALION-LIKE she indeed attempted to make for herself a presentment of western arts and civilisation, but she omitted to pray to VENUS to inspire the statue with life, and it still remains on her hands lifeless and useless. Suddenly, however, China found herself compelled to accept the situation, but never did it with any intention of accommodating herself to the new conditions, and always looking forward to a time when her foreign troublers, having themselves permitted their energies to flag, would become a ready prey to China's old world arts.

It was under these circumstances that she saw her neighbour in Japan, a petty little state as she always affected to call it, dare

to thwart her views about suzerainty. Such a preposterous claim could not, she felt, be even for a moment taken into consideration. China, at least so her one "statesman" LI HUNG-CHANG told her, had big armies, great guns and much ammunition. True, like PYGMALION'S statue, they were nothing but a hollow make-believe—the army dressed up coolies, the guns wooden dummies, and the ammunition largely loaded with coal-dust. They had been paid for as real, and were good enough to frighten Japan. A few weeks showed the stuff of which China's armies and China's generals were composed, and disaster after disaster dogged the Chinese arms till she was compelled to make a treaty abandoning for ever her claims to suzerainty, and giving up much territory. Then her "kind friend," Russia, stepped in and promised to get her back—for a consideration—her province of Shengking. She carried out her programme so far as to get Japan out of Shengking, but having got so far she fancied it so much that she thought she would like to stop there herself. China had paid the money—so that was all right, and the business was closed. China was very well affected towards Russia all this while; though she was the sufferer, the trick was so exactly in accordance with her own method of procedure that she could not but admire it. But a change came over the scene; Japan in the long run succeeded in getting Russia out of Shengking, so Chinese admiration turned on Japan, and she was made the model for a new GALATEA. It is quite true that China thoroughly hates Japan, but nevertheless her instinct points to her as momentarily the pattern for astuteness. Japan has succeeded in circumventing the foreigner; she has made her railways without foreign interference, her mines are controlled only by her own people, and she has succeeded in turning the arts of the foreigner altogether against himself. Such is the object lesson which momentarily is most conspicuous in the eyes of China, but her new GALATEA is just as innocent of flesh and blood as its predecessors. Japan got the foreigner out, it is true, but she did it by praying to VENUS, and so getting her statue endued with flesh and blood. After all Japan had the grace actually to fall in love with her own creation while China does not conceal her hatred. The result of course is that her new GALATEA is merely a lay figure on her hands, and like LI HUNG-CHANG'S dressed-up army, has not within its ranks the spirit of a house. Some two years ago Szechwan seemed all right for entering on the new civilisation: more intelligent than their countryman in the other provinces, the Szechwanese were making considerable advances in the arts, partly through their native genius and partly by attentively studying what they had seen done elsewhere. The Szechwanese were rapidly becoming experts in coal mining; they were taking advantage of the weakness of their fellow countrymen elsewhere, and improved on a great scale their cultivation of the opium poppy: they carefully improved too their production of silk, and in return for all these commodities which she exported in enormous quantities to the lower country, the Szechwanese were living in a condition of comfort and prosperity unknown in any of the other provinces. No people in China were so ready to adapt to their own convenience foreign methods, but not as mere imitators, but from a clear understanding of the underlying principles involved. They had introduced cupolas for smelting their iron ores: their coal mines were worked almost on

European lines, they had introduced tram lines underground and carried the product in regular wheel carriages. Their tools were made of well tempered steels admirably adapted to the work, and all they needed, they said, was to be permitted a more general employment of machinery, for which they were quite prepared to pay. Such was the condition of the province two years ago, and an intelligent interest was taken in every practical improvement in working. Lately all this has been changed, not in response to any anti-foreign feeling on the part of the people, but through the influence of certain obstructionist officials sent down from Peking. The example of Mr. LITTLE'S coal mines is a case in point: working entirely in accord with the native proprietors the production of the mines had been largely increased, and the entire output was being sold at Hankow under contract, largely to the railway and steamers on the River, who found it profitable to pay much higher rates for the Szechwan coal over the ordinary Japanese product. The VICEROY who had in the interest of his province at the beginning advanced by every means in his power the working of the mines, was in the first instance got round. The native banks, who were prepared to receive subscriptions from the native coal workers' were forbidden to associate themselves with the starting of the company, and lately the working of the mines has been practically stopped, and all surveying or boring shut down. The consequence is not only the stoppage of a valuable export but the subscribed capital is lying useless in the bank. The same spirit is shown in regard to railway matters. Two years ago the arrangements had proceeded almost to a head for commencing a much needed line of railway from the lower country to Chengtu, the capital, and the needful capital was in sight. To meet the railway on the border of the province CHANG CHIH-TUNG, the Viceroy of the Liang Hu, had arranged for a loan on favourable terms. Under the pretence that the line had been projected by foreigners, CHANG CHIH-TUNG has been ordered from Peking to cancel his arrangements, and all the projected improvements have been thrown back into chaos. The loss here is not in any sense foreign, but is spread all over the province: a profitable source of wealth has been knocked on the head, the exports of the province thrown back for a generation, and the people, who subsist largely on imported food-stuffs and clothing, made to pay more than double prices for the commodities needed, owing to the present difficulty of navigating the rapids of the Yangtse. This is a fair example of the injury being done in China by the mock patriotism of the Young China Party.

GREAT BRITAIN IN NORTH CHINA.

(Daily Press, January 14th.)

MR. KENNETH BEATON, who writes an article upon "Great Britain in North China" in the *Empire Review*, may certainly be congratulated upon the faculty of being thankful for small mercies. He sees signs of the preponderating influence of Great Britain in the North of China which might escape the notice of less sanguine observers, but which seem to form a consolation to him for all the adverse circumstances that are dwelt upon by the "pessimists" for whom he evinces a salutary contempt. He starts off with the assertion that "the influence and position of Great Britain in North China offer a striking illustration of that moral ascendancy which she acquires

even in countries which are not subject to her rule"—and he proceeds to illustrate this comforting, if somewhat magniloquent, proposition by noting that the British is the most imposing Legation in Peking; that in Tientsin the leading shops, hotels and only Theatre are British; that the Bund where the steamers moor is British; that there is a British Race Course eight miles from Peking, where a meeting is held twice a year. This last seems particularly to arrest Mr. BEATON's attention as an illustration of the "moral ascendancy which Great Britain acquires even in countries which are not subject to her rule"—and he waxes really enthusiastic at this point and declares "one cannot imagine the programme being printed in any language but English"—and there too—"the artificial skating rink—though the best performers come from countries where winter is more severe than ours—has been made what it is under the skilful supervision of our officers of the Royal Engineers"! This is indeed gratifying. At this point of his enthusiasm Mr. BEATON seems to have had some slight misgivings, and observes "these are small matters perhaps, but they are not without significance". They are certainly small matters and as certainly they have some significance—but that significance is not precisely the "moral ascendancy which Great Britain acquires even in countries which are not under her rule", but the somewhat prosaic fact that the British merchants in the North of China as in other parts of the Empire are the richest and the most numerous, and that consequently public works, buildings and social institutions, naturally have a British complexion.

We are afraid that few people in this colony will follow Mr. BEATON in his happy belief founded upon data of the above description that "our countrymen stand out among the men of other countries for all those qualities that make a nation great"—and that "the position of Great Britain is one of striking ascendancy". One may admire his patriotism, but there is a patriotism that is, after all, only a kind of glorified parochialism—and when it takes the form of a delight in a few buildings and a race card in the English language, it does not appear as a very great or noble feeling; and it is apt to blind those who are influenced by it to facts of very much more significance. Those who have had occasion to watch the course of political events in China and to judge of the position held by Great Britain in the country will scarcely adopt Mr. BEATON's rose coloured views, as to our great ascendancy in China. Time was undoubtedly when Great Britain did hold such a position—and when *Tai-Yung-Kuo* was considered as the greatest nation with whom China had to deal, and the one upon which she could best rely, but there are few who are acquainted with what has been going on diplomatically at Peking of late years, who would maintain that British influence has not been largely on the wane. Russia and Japan for many years past have been looked upon by the Chinese officials as the two Powers who had most to be considered in any question that might arise; while American influence at the capital has been known to have been all potent upon many occasions when British views alone would in former days have been considered. If we judge of the matter from actual incidents it is in disputable that our influence with the Chinese is far less than it was formerly, and that the BRITISH MINISTER has not by any means the power he had in the settlement of any international questions that may arise. It is idle, in the face of

such undoubted facts, to rub our hands and warm ourselves in self-consoling congratulations, because there is a comfortable British Hotel in Tientsin and a typical Race Course near the Chinese Capital.

FEDERATIONS AND STATES.

(Daily Press, 15th January.)

The trouble which recently arose with reference to the segregation of Japanese school children in San Francisco, is typical of a difficulty which is being felt in many different directions at the present time. The United States Government is willing to treat Japanese as in every way upon a footing with persons of European nationality—and if the matter rested entirely with the central Government, no question whatever would have arisen. Unfortunately, however, the State of California, which is that immediately concerned, takes a different view of the subject—and thus a delicate and complicated state of affairs has arisen. The *Spectator* in noticing the subject, observes that "the whole incident is a significant lesson of the faults of the American Constitution. When states can assert themselves against the nation in a matter in which the gravest issues of foreign policy are involved, some reform in the direction of strengthening the National Government seems to be urgently needed". This sentence describes with accuracy a precisely similar difficulty which in one way or another has to be provided against by the British nation—substitute the word "Colonies" for "States" and the comments apply with as much, if not greater, force to the British Empire, as to the United States. Indeed, in a minor form, this very difficulty has more than once arisen with respect to Australia where, but for the influence of the Home Government, laws would have been passed entirely excluding Chinese from the country and such laws would, if the will of the people on the spot alone governed the issue, undoubtedly be extended to all Asiatics. As it is, Australia has placed great restrictions upon the entrance of Chinese into the country; and, there is too much reason to fear that as time goes on, the tendency will be to increase them still further. In the Cape Colony the same question has arisen, though it has attracted little attention. There the Chinese are not absolutely excluded, but laws of an extremely restrictive character have been imposed, chiefly with a view to preventing any influx of Chinese from the Transvaal. The same question is certain to arise in other directions, and may at any time be the cause of very knotty points arising between the Home Government and any given Colony on the subject. Britain's Colonial Empire has grown up in so haphazard a way, that it is perhaps not very surprising that the particular contingency has been overlooked. That no Colony can make a treaty with a foreign nation is an accepted principle. This rests entirely with the Imperial Government, and hitherto the Colonies have been willing to loyally accept the international relations established by the Imperial Government, chiefly, however, because they did not in any serious way conflict with their own interests. As, however, the Colonies have grown in importance, the likelihood of such conflict is also increased; and we now find the question turning up in so many directions that it is impossible to ignore the necessity of some steps being taken to adjust the matter if possible.

The principle that a self-governing Colony has a full right to manage its own affairs is as thoroughly established as the principle

that the Imperial Government has the right to decide upon all questions of international relations. These two principles may conflict at any given time, and, as a matter of fact, have done so in a conspicuous manner in more directions than one. The Newfoundland Fisheries question, the disputes as to Chinese labour in the Transvaal, the difficulties with regard to Chinese immigrants in Australia form noticeable instances; and it will be strange if, with these warnings before them, the Home Government should neglect to take the subject into serious consideration, and to endeavour to devise some scheme by which a conflict of this kind may be avoided in future.

Looked at broadly, the British Empire as a whole stands very much in the same position as the United States finds itself to stand in with regard to the recent Japanese question. The Colonies have the right to regulate all matters which are internal or local; but the difficulty is to define what things come fairly under this denomination. From the Colonial point of view, it is an internal question whether Australia will admit or exclude persons of Asiatic nationality. But the question may also involve important imperial considerations and the action of the Colony may go counter to actual treaty relations. In such a case, it may be no easy matter to decide what cause should be adopted. It is manifestly dangerous to leave all such questions to be settled merely as they happen to arise and without any guiding principle for their solution. The time therefore has clearly come when some understanding should be arrived at with the Colonies upon this important subject. The problem is certainly not an easy one to solve but, for this very reason, it would be unwise to blink the necessity of dealing with it. The matter would form a suitable subject for discussion at a Colonial Conference, where some general principles might be accepted such as would form a basis upon which a definite understanding might be arrived at between the Home Government and the Colonies. The latter have always shown themselves ready to act reasonably in all such matters, and willing to settle them in a way that future conflict may be avoided. But this willingness will be strained unduly, if, after the warnings which have of late sprung up, some attempt be not made (possibly in the direction of representation of the Colonies in the Imperial Parliament or some similar measure) to meet a difficulty, which except some action be taken, may at any time assume a dangerous and acute phase.

RUSSO-JAPANESE NEGOTIATIONS.

(Daily Press, 15th January.)

The latest mail papers from London appear to have been concerned about the "tense relations" of Russia and Japan. This, considering that others have been declaring war between Japan and America, would be alarming—especially in Japan—were it not evident that imagination is still a force in this class of literature. The Japanese Minister to Russia has declared, simultaneously, that relations between Russia and Japan are the best possible, and he is just as likely to know the truth, and more likely, perhaps, to tell it. The crisis between America and Japan has had to be fed with the wildest and most transparent inventions; and on the whole we may rest assured that in neither case is there likely to be any development disturbing to the world.

peace, a continuance of which, for some years at least, is hoped for. At present there is nothing new to be said concerning the trouble originated in California; the American Government and its independent state units must be left to work out their own salvation. The negotiations between Russia and Japan may be referred to, however, as they do not appear to be too well understood. The two Powers are not wrangling; they are haggling; a very different proposition, and one permitting of various solutions not involving strain. It is the essence of all such bargaining that the parties respectively ask more than the others are likely to concede; and it is only when they come down to the "irreducible minimum" that there is any real excuse for alarmist suggestions. In the present case Japan is still in a position to waive some points, and Russia, as is her consistent policy, took care from the beginning to put herself in the position to do the same thing. To the callous observer, the demands she has made, in view of the issue of the war, have sometimes savoured of impudence; but these things are well understood by diplomats on both sides, and neither begrudges the other side a cheap reputation for liberality when the inevitable waivers come to pass. Japan has had her way in Korea, Russia assenting readily when dissent was out of the question; and Russia was also conciliatory over the question of the exequatur for consuls, Russia tacitly letting it be understood that all her treaties with Korea had become wastepaper. Now it seems to be Japan's turn, and Russia is making a stubborn show of resisting Japan's wholesale demands for fishing rights. Both relying upon the same clause of the Portsmouth Treaty, Japan claims full fishing rights along the coasts of all Russian possessions at this side of Asia, and Russia urges that there are vested interests, Russian and foreign, which preclude the granting of all that Japan demands. *Prima facie*, the agreement as worded seems to indicate that it is Japan's turn to modify her claims, the clause standing thus:

"Russia undertakes to enter into an agreement with Japan, with a view to confer upon Japan's subjects fishing rights along the coasts of the Russian possessions in the Japan, Okhotsk, and Behring Seas. It is covenanted that the aforesaid undertaking shall not affect the rights already invested in Russian or foreign subjects in those territories."

There would undoubtedly be a serious outcry in Russia if the government at St. Petersburg failed to maintain the national rights and reservations indicated therein; and so far as can at present be ascertained, this is one of the positions from which Russia is unlikely to recede. Other concessions are possible, obliging offers are indeed talked of, but in this one particular Russia seems to occupy the position of a man who, for a principle, will spend a pound to save a penny. The long-awaited Commercial Convention is probably side-tracked as much by this consideration as by its own internal difficulties; and if, as some have suggested, it is the chief barrier to the talked-of Anglo-Russian Convention, we may be better reconciled to the delay. It is always better to be off with the old love before starting with the new.

The return of stamp revenue for the year 1906 shows a total decrease of \$14,940.07. The only items showing increases are, impressed stamps, \$40,105.62, and bills of health \$1,011.95. The undermentioned decreases, as compared with the year 1905, occur on the following items:—Bank note duty, \$17,313.65; embossed stamps, \$38,564.25; telegraph forms, \$5.25; emigration fees, \$125; medical declarations, \$10; and medical registration, \$70.

THE CONFUCIAN "REVIVAL."

(Daily Press, 17th January.)

There would not appear to be anything particularly mysterious about the recent Chinese Imperial Decree that provides for the more systematic worship of the memory of Confucius, yet the motive-seekers have set to work already, and we see suggestions that it is another anti-foreign movement, an adoption of a state religion and a flouting of the missionaries of all other cults. One contemporary finds a solution in the theory that the order to accord to Confucius "the same sacrificial ceremonies of worship accorded to heaven and earth when sacrifice is paid by the Emperor" is a shrewd attempt to counterbalance the evils of educational reform—"a little foreign learning is a dangerous thing"—and China has been suffering from "extraneous influences which have followed inevitably on the influx of fresh ideas". Free and compulsory Board Schools in the United Kingdom have indeed a madness not altogether dissimilar, whose fruits the British nation has begun to reap. In China, remarks our contemporary, this madness may be moderated "by this rehabilitation of the ancient wisdom". The argument is an ingenious one, but it was hardly called for, so far as we can see. We should have assured that the Decree was merely one of the number with which Peking habitually amuses itself in periods of boredom. A boy armed with a knife sets out to "carve something," no matter what, for the mere pastime; this Decree strikes us as such a carving. We would be glad to think it was something more; that it would indeed bring about a "rehabilitation" of China's old ideals; but even assuming that its intention was such, this Decree would defeat its own object. The moment a philosopher becomes a fetish, the practical value of his teachings is gone. This is no mere catchy phrase; we recommend it for analysis. Truth fails when it becomes platitudinal; a thief will not be moved by the adage about honesty being the best policy; and if ever an altar be erected to HERBERT SPENCER, men will cease to take his writings seriously. It is common knowledge among those who know a little Cantonese that the Chinese have acquired a habit of quoting and misquoting their classics, sometimes ironically, often using a beautiful crystallization of truth to suggest something banal or even contrary to the text, much as a humorous foreign beggar will remind his victim that "the Lord loveth a cheerful giver." These words come glibly from his saucy tongue; their significance evidently never penetrated his semi-stupified brain. So we fear the force of the Chinese Classics will only be weakened if the people are further directed to the shibboleth, and less to the sense. It is possible, as another contemporary fears, that "for China's real welfare and advancement there could not perhaps be a more regrettable movement than this sudden elevation of the great sage to the rank and position of a very god". Not for the same reason—that "the Edict will operate adversely to the spread of Christianity"—but because the formalism and State recognition that have denuded Christianity in Europe will assuredly make moribund whatever of true Confucianism still survives among the masses of China. The same paper which deprecates the Edict as threatening the foreign propaganda gives us this definition of Confucianism: "the doctrine of Confucius is a practical, colourless code of moral ethics, [sic] devoid of any lofty standard of unattainable ideals". If it be

practical and moral, we can overlook its lack of colour and of lofty impossibilities—for after all, in China as elsewhere, there is no need to encourage more profession; what is needed is more practice!

UNPROFITABLE GOLD MINING.

(Daily Press, January 18th.)

The winding-up of the Weihaiwei Gold Mining Co., Ltd. serves to call attention to the fact that gold mining, not only in China but in other countries, is not the lucrative industry that many investors suppose it to be. Those British patriots who have been accustomed to find consolation for the Empire's meagre production of commodities in its practical command of the world's gold supply are now face to face with the reflection that they have been depending on a broken reed. Company gold mining by paid labour appears to be, on the average, and including unproductive mines, one of the most unprofitable of industries, especially now that the commodity value of gold has so apparently depreciated. There are people who, after half a century of observation and study, maintain that it has always been an unprofitable industry. They argue that in the best cases the profits are habitually overstated, and that the dividends paid largely consist of returned capital. In mining accounts, it is the custom to make provision for the depreciation of machinery, but there appears never to have been an instance of allowance or "writing down" for the inevitable exhaustion of the mine itself. It is obvious that each year the value of the mine is less, the quantity of gold therein smaller, and that the mine as an asset must ultimately become an empty hole. The Weihaiwei mines were not absolutely empty when the foreigners tackled them, but it soon became evident that the earlier Chinese birds had got the worm. In the case of the Transvaal gold mines, considered by many British as a valuable Imperial asset, this exhaustion is in progress, even while the exchange value of gold has diminished, and the cost of labour (thanks largely to political humbug) has made it dearer to produce. The candle is being burned at both ends, and it is the ordinary shareholder who is likely to be singed. The mine Directors ought, for both equitable and business reasons, to charge for the depreciation of the mine's contents, and from the money so obtained, the shareholders should receive returns of capital free of Income Tax. Their interests, however, are nearer the interests of the promoters than of the shareholders, and such an honest procedure would, of course, make the legitimate profits look less, and so imperil the illegitimate. So late as Nov. 21st of last year the Chairman of the Consolidated Goldfields Company of South Africa is reported as admitting that more than half of the 63 mines operating in August, 1906, were earning less than ten shillings a ton, and nine of them were earning less than five shillings. Allow for the diminishing contents of those mines, and it is at once seen that their earnings are less even than admitted. Experts tell us that the richest of them will be exhausted in less than three lustres. The 150,000 miners engaged are expected to have produced an aggregate dividend for the year ending March next of something less than five millions sterling. For the six months ending last September the actual return from the whole goldfield was £2,400,407. Reckoning on £5,000,000 for the year, it will be found that each miner returns a profit of about

£33 5s. which permits a startlingly narrow margin under present conditions of politics, when labour and machinery are both costing more gold to get. So well is this recognized that there is practically no new development, and so there ought to be, according to the law of supply and demand, some appreciation of the commodity value of gold. No doubt there would be, in a very long while, but as we have recently pointed out, the world has been flooded with gold, and the real demand, of course, is for the things that gold pays for. There are artificial factors as numerous as they are puzzling, but these, broadly, are the salient features for investors to reflect upon at present. Unprofitable as gold mining is on the average, there is always the temptation in hopes of a rich "strike," and the promoters know well how to tickle the gambling spirit that animates us all. In the long run, it is probable that investors will find that only the promoters have been profiting really, and fresh "booms," to unload their unfortunate speculations on to greener gamblers, may not always be so easily managed as they have been.

THE CHINA TRADE.

(*Daily Press*, January 19th.)

Whether the political cry of "China for the Chinese" will have any serious significance is a question which can only be answered in the course of time, but there can be no doubt that the tendency of matters has long been in the direction of the China trade at least being mainly for the Chinese. By degrees they have contrived to become more and more independent of foreign aid, and a large amount of business which was formerly conducted by Europeans has passed into Chinese hands. This has been the burden of complaint among mercantile men for many years past; and it is too much to be feared that the drift of things is more than ever in this direction. The causes of this state of matters are not very difficult to trace. They have indeed been only too apparent to those who are concerned and who have watched the course of affairs without being able to find any remedy for it. Want of detailed information upon local matters; the habit of co-operation and combination among the Chinese; the difficulty—indeed almost impossibility—of dispensing with middlemen who come between the Chinese producers and the foreign consumers; and *vice versa*, are sufficient to account for trade gradually drifting from foreign into native hands. Over and above these causes, and indeed almost as a necessary result from them, has been the compradore system so universally followed in China. However necessary it may have been, that such a system should be adopted it is impossible to ignore that it has proved in the long run productive of unsatisfactory results. Foreign merchants have been placed by it in the position of teachers of their own trade to very willing pupils who were certain in the course of time to better the instruction and to become very largely masters of the situation. This danger, manifest as it must always have been, was not estimated at its true magnitude in the earlier days. The compradores and confidential business Chinese who co-operated with the Europeans in the conduct of their business, were found to do their best for the interests of their Houses and of the merchants who dealt with or co-operated with them. So convenient a system of pushing on business naturally commended itself, and less attention was paid, than would otherwise have been the case, to its manifest

dangers. It was not perceived that the chief reason of the Chinese attaching themselves in this manner to European Houses was the fact that in many directions the Chinese could do business in that way upon much better terms than they could without the influence which they obtained by being attached to foreign Houses. Chief among such advantages was their freedom from various "squeezes" and illegal levies in transit by trading under the *capis* of some foreign firm. It thus suited them very well to stick loyally to the Houses who employed them and to refrain from any attempt to spoil a good position by attempting to get too much into their own hands. Things, however, have very much altered in this respect. Foreign trade has been placed upon a more established basis, and the Chinaman is no longer dependent, as he was in earlier times, upon anything in the form of protection from foreign merchants. It is thus only natural that he should consider the time has come to avail himself of the lessons in foreign trade which have been so obligingly taught to him. The Compradore system has enabled him to learn all about foreign ways of business while, unfortunately, foreigners have learnt but very little about his. There is nothing to prevent his availing himself of all foreign facilities, and doing in his own way and for his own benefit all that he formerly was accustomed to do only in conjunction with foreign houses. The signs of the times all point out that the Chinaman is fully aware of the position which he has thus been able to obtain, and that he will do his best to avail himself of it to the utmost.

Whether this state of things could have been avoided had the Compradore system never existed, it is of course impossible to say. The likelihood is that under any circumstances a large quantity of trade and commercial enterprise would drift into the hands of those who necessarily come into contact with the bulk of the people in a way which is impossible to outsiders. Added to this there is the system of combined action by means of guilds and other commercial combinations, which are powerful weapons in Chinese hands in procuring the command of any given branch of business. Treaty stipulations against monopolies are of little avail against the force which such combinations can exert; and, even without the compradore system there have always been elements in China which tend to place commercial power in the hands of the Chinese; and which sooner or later were bound to bring about the results which are now deprecating. The fact has to be faced that a new era has come about in all commercial enterprise in China; and that the Chinese are alive to the change and are doing their utmost in all matters of business and also in engineering and other enterprises to manage affairs their own way and to have recourse to foreign aid and co-operation as little as possible. The change, though disappointing to foreign traders in many respects, is not devoid of some compensating advantages. While the immediate profits to European merchants are necessarily curtailed, foreign trade generally is likely to be increased by its being in the hands of those who are acquainted with its requirements in all directions and are able to assist in pushing it in the interior in a way that is impossible to any who are not intimately connected with trade as it exists among the Chinese themselves. This consideration is of course no great consolation to those who find the trade which was formerly theirs, slipping gradually from their control.

The remedy has often been suggested, and in some directions has been adopted, namely, that foreigners should now reverse the old process and, in place of being teachers of the Chinese should endeavour to become their pupils, and by study of the Chinese language and by attaining to a better knowledge of Chinese ways of business qualify themselves to again take the leading position which their superior knowledge at one time gave them. Most people who are authorities on the subject hold that it is in this direction that the best hope lies for an improvement in present unsatisfactory state of affairs. Unfortunately, however, the remedy is a slow one and, though we might hope that in the long run it would prove efficacious, we cannot but realise that in the meantime those engaged in trading and commercial enterprise in China, have an uphill time before them.

SUPREME COURT.

Monday, January 14th.

IN ORIGINAL JURISDICTION.

BEFORE SIR FRANCIS PIGGOTT (CHIEF JUSTICE).

A DISPUTED INSURANCE CLAIM.

The case concluded in which the Sun Kwong Lee firm, piece goods dealers, formerly carrying on business at 352 Queen's Road Central, and now at 63 Wing Lok Street, sought to recover from the Union Commercial Co. the sum of \$5,555.55 due under an insurance policy.

Mr. M. W. Slade, instructed by Mr. E. J. Grist (of Messrs. Wilkinson and Grist) appeared for plaintiffs and Hon. Mr. H. E. Pollock, K.C., instructed by Mr. H. Hursthouse (of Messrs. Denny and Bowley) represented the defendants.

His Lordship, in delivering judgment, stated that, having regard to the discrepancies in the different books, he could not hold that the plaintiffs had proved their case. The defendants had raised the question of fraud, but he did not think the discrepancies amounted to fraud, therefore he could not sustain that contention. Dealing with the fact of the Insurance Company withholding the books of the plaintiffs, his Lordship considered they had no right to do this, especially after a reputable firm of solicitors had made application for them. In view of this proceeding he thought the case would be met if he non-suited the plaintiffs with costs.

Tuesday, January 15th.

IN ORIGINAL JURISDICTION.

BEFORE SIR FRANCIS PIGGOTT (CHIEF JUSTICE).

ANOTHER CLAIM FOR INSURANCE.

Before His Honour the Chief Justice and a special jury, Lau Sin-wan, trading under the style of Cheong Lee and Co., sought to recover from the North German Fire Insurance Co. the sum of \$51,442.08 due under an insurance policy, as the result of a fire in the plaintiff's shop on September 9th, 1905.

Hon. Mr. H. E. Pollock, K.C., instructed by Mr. R. A. Harding, appeared for plaintiff, the defendant being represented by Mr. M. W. Slade, instructed by Mr. Atkinson (of Messrs. Deacon, Locker and Deacon).

The jurors empanelled were as under: Messrs. F. C. Wilford (foreman), T. I. Rose, A. Mackenzie, G. C. Moxon, J. G. Scott, W. A. Dowley and M. S. Sassoon.

Mr. W. H. Wickham was called but asked to be exempted on the ground that considerable trouble was being experienced with the electric light cables, and that unless they were attended

to, many residents would be without light in the evening. His Lordship considered the matter of sufficient public interest to grant the juror exemption. Mr. A. H. Ough was also exempted as the firm in which he was employed had prepared plans of the plaintiff's building, while Mr. Pollock challenged Messrs. J. H. Jasson and G. L. Tomlin because they were connected with the insurance business.

The statement of claim set out that by a policy of insurance made by the defendants, numbered 4,848, dated April 5th, 1905, the defendants insured the plaintiff under the firm name of the Cheong Lee Co. against loss or damage by fire as follows, namely, a sum of \$5,000 on goods and/or merchandise, imports and/or exports, being the plaintiff's own property or held by him in trust, or at a commission, or on joint account with others, stored and/or to be stored during the currency of such policy in the shop and dwelling house known as 31 Des Vœux Road Central, ground and second floors. By an endorsement on the policy dated July 7th, the defendants declared that the goods stored on the ground, first and second floors of 29 Des Vœux Road Central were also covered by the said policy, and admitted that plaintiff had declared that he held other insurance on the said insured articles with certain other insurance companies, to the total amount of \$45,000. Plaintiff was on the dates aforesaid, and at the time of the loss and damage hereinafter mentioned, interested in the said goods to the said amounts so insured thereon respectively. On September 9th a fire occurred on the plaintiff's premises, 29 and 31 Des Vœux Road, as a result of which the said premises were almost wholly gutted, and a large proportion of the goods therein was totally destroyed. Certain goods were saved by the plaintiff in a damaged condition, and all these goods were sold. After giving credit for the proceeds of sale of the damaged portion of the goods, and for the estimated value of the undamaged portion, which estimated value considerably exceeded the actual price realized by the sale of such undamaged portion, the plaintiff's loss by the fire amounted to \$51,442.08, which amount the plaintiff claimed and the defendants wrongfully neglected to pay the amount, or any sum of money whatsoever. The plaintiff further claimed costs, and further or other relief.

In the statement of defence it was said that on the date of the fire the goods stored in the plaintiff's premises were of a value far less than \$50,000. Therein it was denied that the premises were almost wholly gutted, and that any of the goods on the ground floor were destroyed by fire. It was further denied that plaintiff's losses by the said fire amounted to \$51,442.08, or to any sum approximating to the said amount. Defendants admitted that they had refused to pay any sum whatever under the policy, but denied that such refusal was wrongful. The policy was given subject, inter alia, to the condition numbered 11 on the back thereof, whereby if there was any fraud in the claim made for any loss under the said policy, or any false declarations or affirmations made in support of such claim, the claims should forfeit all benefit under the said policy. The defendants contended that the plaintiff's claim under the said policy was fraudulent and supported by false declarations or affirmations, inasmuch as he had claimed that there was on the premises at the date of the fire goods to the value of \$51,442.08, and had supported the said claim by the production of his books of account; and had also declared and affirmed that he had during the year 1905 removed from the said premises, or from the Colony, no goods other than those specified in certain statements furnished by him to the defendants, and appearing in his books of account, whereas the goods on the premises at the said date were of far less value than \$51,442.08, and the books were kept in such a manner as not to show what stock was on the premises at the time of the fire; and he had during the year 1905 removed from the premises and shipped out of the Colony large quantities of goods other than those appearing as removed and shipped in the said statement and books.

Mr. Pollock, after reading the pleadings, dealt with correspondence re the fire, after which evidence was called and the case adjourned.

Thursday, January 17th.

IN SUMMARY JURISDICTION.

BEFORE MR. A. G. WISE (PUISNE JUDGE.)

A PARTNERSHIP DISPUTE.

The Kwong Lee Sang sued the Wing Hing Cheong and another to recover \$979.53, balance of money paid to the defendants by the plaintiffs and wrongfully converted by defendants to their own use.

Mr. P. W. Goldring (of Messrs. Goldring and Barlow) appeared for plaintiffs, and Mr. J. H. Gardiner (of Mr. O. D. Thomson's office) for the second defendant.

Mr. Goldring pointed out that to all intents and purposes the question resolved itself into an issue as to whether the second defendant, Kwok Tam-wan, was at the time of this contract a partner in the defendant firm.

Mr. Gardiner raised the question as to whether the plaintiff was entitled to sue in Hongkong.

His Lordship—That is not a special defence is it?

Mr. Goldring—It has never been raised before.

Mr. Gardiner—I think the plaintiff is wrong in bringing the action here. The whole of the transactions occurred in Canton, and although defendants and plaintiffs are at present residing here, their place of residence is really China.

His Lordship—Where was the contract entered into?

Mr. Gardiner—At Shek Kai.

His Lordship—Well, I cannot decide that point until I hear the evidence on it.

Mr. Goldring—My clients are resident here, and remitted the money to Canton.

His Lordship—On the face of the writ the defendants are alleged to have an address in Canton.

Mr. Gardiner—I think my friend will admit their business place is at Canton.

Mr. Goldring—One of them is in Canton.

Li Pun-po, managing partner of the plaintiff firm, said the second defendant, Kwok Tam-wan, was one of the managing partners in the defendant firm. The money was forwarded to the defendants at Shek Kai for them to distribute it in certain letters.

His Lordship—It must be established that the contract was entered into in Hongkong. At present it appears to have been made at Shek Kai.

Mr. Goldring—My clients are domiciled here, and the money was remitted from here.

His Lordship—If a firm carries on business in Shek Kai, and a firm in Hongkong sends them money, the contract is at Shek Kai.

Mr. Goldring—Supposing I am in Singapore, come up to Hongkong and make a contract and that contract is broken here, surely I am entitled to sue in Singapore?

His Lordship—If you can serve your writ. Have you served the defendant?

Mr. Goldring—Yes, the writ was served here and the breach of the contract was here.

Witness, continuing, said he took the amount claimed to Shek Kai himself, and handed it to the defendants.

Cross-examined—Witness lived at Shek Kai, which was his native village. About three years ago the second defendant told him he was a partner in the defendant firm. All the partners of the said firm were in China, but he brought the proceedings here because the second defendant came here to reside. The books of the defendant firm were given him by one of the foks.

His Lordship—What did you pay him to get them?

Witness—Nothing.

His Lordship—When you go back to Shek Kai you are liable to get into trouble.

Mr. Goldring—But the firm is dissolved now.

His Lordship—But he has no right to have the books. Proceeding, he asked, Is Li Chik-man a partner in the defendant firm?—Yes.

And why have you not sued him as well?—Because I handed the money to the second defendant.

He is your witness, is he not?—Yes.

Li Chik-man, called and examined by Mr. Goldring, stated that he was a partner in the

defendant firm, which firm had no address in Hongkong.

Cross-examined by Mr. Gardiner, he said the second defendant was responsible for the amount in dispute, as he was the manager of the defendant firm.

Mr. Gardiner—Is that the law in China?

Mr. Goldring—That is hardly a fair question to put; the witness is not an expert.

His Lordship (to witnesses)—Why do you say that the second defendant, because he is manager, has to pay?

Witness—Because I lost all my capital.

Mr. Gardiner—But you are still liable?—Yes, I know I'm liable.

Did the plaintiff promise to release you from your debt if you came here and gave evidence?

—No.

You've done it out of pure love?—No.

Who paid your fare here?—I did.

You came down specially for this case, didn't you?—No.

Then it so happens that you came down at a very opportune moment.—I have been here for a month.

His Lordship—Waiting for the case?—No, I didn't reckon on that.

Mr. Gardiner—Do you know a man named Kwok Chik San Tong?—Ask another man of the same surname and he'll tell you.

Mr. Goldring—Who closed the shop?—Two of the partners.

Without consulting the others?—Yes.

And the others naturally felt aggrieved?—Well they couldn't feel aggrieved. If you don't make you must lose, it's either one way or the other.

After hearing further evidence his Lordship said to his mind the whole thing was evidently a got up show. Plaintiff had no business to have the partnership book, and the books ought not to have been handed over to him. Then a man was produced as a witness for the plaintiff who was admittedly a partner in the firm, and apparently he had been bribed. "The whole thing," concluded his Lordship, "is fishy, and judgment is for the defendant with costs."

Friday, January 18th.

IN CRIMINAL JURISDICTION.

BEFORE SIR FRANCIS PIGGOTT (CHIEF JUSTICE.)

The Criminal Sessions opened, but were formally adjourned until Monday. The only case set down for trial is one in which Chan-Kau stands indicted on four counts of assault causing bodily harm.

IN SUMMARY JURISDICTION.

BEFORE MR. A. G. WISE (PUISNE JUDGE.)

WASTING HIS HONOUR'S TIME.

Wong Sui-kam sued A-sam to recover \$4, which she claimed was due for two months' rent.

Defendant—I only owe one month's rent, and that is \$1.50.

His Lordship—Plaintiff says it is \$2 a month.

Both parties then proceeded to explain, and the usher had some difficulty in silencing them. His Lordship then told them to sit down, remarking that it was absurd for them to be wasting the time of the Court for a sum of \$4. Later he addressed the plaintiff: I'll give you \$1.50 and costs; will you take that?—Yes.

His Lordship—Very well; judgment for \$1.50 and costs.

Defendant—I'll pay her now.

The parties were shown the door.

His Lordship—They're sure to fight over the costs when they get outside.

A CARELESS TENANT.

Sit Leung-kit claimed from Wong Lun-shi the sum of \$24 due for rent.

The defendant's husband appeared, told his Lordship the defendant was his wife and did not owe the money.

His Lordship—What is she, your kit fat?—No.

His Lordship—Then you can sit down. Call the defendant.

Defendant was called and reprimanded for neglecting to answer her name.

Sit Leung-kit stated that defendant was the tenant of one of his houses at Taikoktau from August 1st, 1905, till January of last year.

His Lordship—Why haven't you sued her before?—Because she cleared out of the Colony.

Defendant was then called and admitted entering the house on August 1st, but stated that she left again on September 27th.

His Lordship—Produce your rent receipts.

—The plaintiff gave me no receipts.

You never got a receipt at all?—No.

Well, you'd better pay again; you must know it is proper to get receipts for rent. But the plaintiff wouldn't give me any receipts.

His Lordship—Oh! rubbish. I fancy you are just as able to scold him as he is to scold you. Judgment and costs for plaintiff.

DUKE'S VISIT.

OFFICIAL ARRANGEMENTS.

The following correspondence from the Colonial Secretary's office is self-explanatory:

Colonial Secretary's Office,

Hongkong, 12th January, 1907.

SIR,—Referring to my letter of the 21st December last, I am directed to forward copies of the telegraphic correspondence on the subject of the approaching visit of Their Royal Highnesses the Duke and Duchess of Connaught, together with a draft programme setting forth the arrangements that it is proposed to make for Their Royal Highnesses' entertainment, during the first two days of their stay. I have, etc.,

(Sd) T. SERCOMBE SMITH,
Colonial Secretary.

The Honourable

Sir C. P. Chater, Kt., C.M.G.

Telegram from the Governor, Hongkong, to the Secretary of State, London, dated 3rd January, 1907:

Community of Hongkong desire to present Address of Welcome to H.R.H. Duke of Connaught and Duchess on landing and give public ball in honour of Their Royal Highnesses. Native Community also desire to give theatrical entertainment one afternoon during visit of their Royal Highnesses more especially to Her Royal Highness Duchess and Princess. Please telegraph whether proposed arrangements would be acceptable.

Telegram from the Governor, Hongkong, to the Secretary of State, London, dated 5th January, 1907:

Referring to my wire of 3rd instant donors of Statues of His Majesty the King and His Royal Highness Prince of Wales anxious His Royal Highness Duke of Connaught should unveil Statues during visit. Please ascertain whether His Royal Highness graciously consents.

Telegram from the Secretary of State, London, to the Governor, Hongkong, dated 7th January, 1907:

You telegram of 3rd January fully appreciated. His Royal Highness thinks reception preferable to ball. Their Royal Highnesses will if time permits attend afternoon performance given by native community in their honour. Please send to meet them Colombo and Singapore programme of proposal.

Telegram from the Secretary of State, London, to the Governor, Hongkong, dated 8th January, 1907:

His Royal Highness will be glad to unveil statues His Majesty the King and Prince of Wales during visit if time permits.

DRAFT PROGRAMME.

Wednesday, the 6th February, 1907.

9 a.m. Arrival.

11 a.m. Presentation of Address from the Community.

12 noon Unveiling of Statues of H.M. the King and H.R.H. the Prince of Wales.

1 p.m. Lunch at Government House.

5.30 p.m. Masonic Lodge Meeting.

8 p.m. Dinner at Government House.

10 p.m. Reception at Government House.

Thursday, the 7th February, 1907.

4.30 p.m. Chinese Theatrical Performance for their Royal Highnesses the Duchess of Connaught and Princess Patricia.

TRAGIC SEQUEL TO A SHOOTING EXPEDITION.

At the Magistracy on the 14th January Mr. F. A. Hazeland, sitting as coroner, and a jury consisting of Messrs. Ho Kum Tong, C. H. Rogge and J. E. Danilson, conducted an inquiry into the death of a Chinaman named Cheng Kan Mui who was accidentally shot in the New Territory on December 26th.

Police Sergeant Kerr, in charge of Ping Shan Station, stated that on the morning of December 26th he hired a boat at Tai-Ching Village to go shooting ducks at Deep Bay, taking with him three boatmen and three other Chinese. The deceased was one of the boatmen. One of the other Chinese, named Tang Pak, had a gun. They had only proceeded some little distance when they saw a curlew on a mud bank. Tang Pak fired at it but missed. The bird rose and flew over the boat. Witness fired at it and also missed. Then pulling down the gun, with the muzzle pointing towards the west, he extracted the empty cartridge. The gun was a magazine gun and the act of extracting the empty cartridge reloaded the gun and left the hammer at full cock. He put his finger on the trigger and his thumb on the hammer to ease it down to half cock when his thumb slipped off the hammer, causing the cartridge to be discharged. The charge struck the deceased about two inches above the right knee. Witness took the injured man to the Government Civil Hospital. Witness had had the gun about a month and had only used it on two occasions.

Dr. Koch, superintendent of the Government Civil Hospital, spoke to deceased being admitted to the Hospital with a wound on the front portion of the right thigh and suffering from shock. The thigh was also fractured so that an operation was considered necessary. Deceased stood the operation well but became bad shortly afterwards and died at midnight, the cause of death being the gunshot wound.

After hearing corroborative evidence from the native boatmen, the jury returned a verdict of death from misadventure.

TRIAL TRIP.

The *Perle*, one of four stern wheel steamers designed for the Tonkin River Subsidized Mail Service, underwent her trial trip on Jan. 18, and as congratulations were numerous during the afternoon it follows that the results were highly satisfactory. Undoubtedly the Kowloon and Whampoa Dock Company, who have built and engineered her, have reason to be pleased with the outcome of their handiwork, while Messrs. Wilks and Jack, who designed the craft and superintended its construction on behalf of Messrs. Roque, are to be congratulated on the success they have achieved. The *Perle* is 146 feet long, 24 feet broad, and draws only about two feet of water as it must traverse many shallows between Haiphong and the Chinese frontier. It has accommodation for six first class passengers, twelve second class, forty third class and about 200 can be accommodated on the lower deck. Altogether it is a very serviceable craft, admirably planned for its future trade. A due regard has been paid to the comfort and convenience of passengers and it is not the fault of the designers or the builders if the *Perle* does not become popular with travellers in Tonkin. When the company had seen the steamer's capabilities, Mr. Graham, who represented the Dock Company, proposed prosperity to the *Perle* and its owners, to which Mr. Roque responded and submitted the toast of the good work. After other complimentary toasts, the measured mile in Kowloon Bay was traversed several times. As the vessel has a large amount of superstructure and a very little draught, the rough weather did not permit of her showing her pace—though the speed was satisfactory—but it demonstrated her seaworthiness. To-day, given better conditions, there will be another speed test and in a day or two the vessel will proceed by her own steam to Haiphong.

It is expected that the second of the series will be launched in a fortnight.

THE CUBICLE QUESTION.

Sanitary Inspector Coysh proceeded against the tenants of Nos. 476, 482, 488 and 490 Queen's Road West for maintaining illegal cubicles on their premises. Mr. C. D. Melbourne heard the case.

Mr. D. V. Stevenson (of Messrs. Deacon, Looker and Deacon) appeared for the defendants and said he would satisfy his Worship that the order made a week ago to remove these cubicles was bad.

His Worship—This is a rehearing, is it not? Mr. Stevenson—It comes to that; but I would submit on the facts, as pointed out to you on December 24th, that the prosecution had not put themselves in a position to come to this Court and ask for an order. The summonses are all in the same wording and state that the offences are in contravention of section 153, sub-section A of ordinance 1 of 1903, whereas there is no such sub-section in that Ordinance. That section was entirely repealed and another section substituted by Ordinance 23 of 1903.

His Worship—You mean to say the summons ought to be under Ordinance 23?

Mr. Stevenson—I don't even say that. I say they are thrown back on section 230 of the Ordinance named in the summons.

His Worship—Do you mean to say this is not in force?

Mr. Stevenson—I don't say it is not in force, but we are not summoned under that section because the section is brought in by another Ordinance.

His Worship—It is all printed in my Ordinance.

Mr. Stevenson—But that is an ordinance which has been revised and all the amending Ordinances incorporated in it; but, for some reason or other, it is still called ordinance 1 of 1903.—Proceeding, the speaker referred his Worship to section 230 before mentioned, on which he contended they were thrown back, and submitted that according to the ordinary interpretation of this section a summons must be served on the owner of a building or works.

His Worship—Yes; but how can I go into that? The difficulty you have is that your clients came up here on December 28th and all pleaded guilty. An order was made, and now the time for rehearing has expired. This is really in the nature of a rehearing, and even if the order was bad you could have asked for a rehearing within time.

Mr. Stevenson—I thought I was entitled to now?

His Worship—But then, the time's up.

Mr. Stevenson—I appeared here on the day fixed for a remand, and your Worship would not hear me.

His Worship—I didn't know you wished a rehearing, but I am bound by the Magistrates Ordinance. Eight clear days have now elapsed—but, had you asked for a rehearing before, I would have granted one straight away.

Mr. Stevenson—That is what I would have asked for if the case had been proceeded with; but, as it was remanded, I did not make my application.—Continuing, Mr. Stevenson contended that the notice served should have been in conformity with the provisions of schedule L, and argued that all formalities must be completed before the Building Authority appeared before his Worship for an order.

His Worship—These people were warned by the owners of the property that the cubicles were illegal, and told not to put them up.

Mr. Stevenson—That is not sufficient warning. It must be made according to the form in the ordinance.

His Worship—Where tenants are warned by an owner, tell not to put cubicles up, and go and deliberately erect them, do you think that after that a notice is required?

Mr. Stevenson—I submit it does not matter who warned these people. The cubicles were put up, and even if the Building Authority says they are illegal he cannot bring them to court unless they are served with the proper notice.

His Worship—Your clients said they knew the cubicles were illegal, and admitted having been warned. The Sanitary Board, knowing that, did not think a notice necessary.

Mr. Stevenson—That is not a question for the Sanitary Board to consider, but the

Magistrate; and even if a notice was served it should not be on the tenant but on the owner.

His Worship did not think a notice under schedule L was necessary, and could not see his way to alter the order made. He suggested, however, that the prosecution might give the defendants an opportunity of removing the cubicles before proceeding further.

MAKING NOISE BY MUSIC.

Ng Sze-kai, of 14 Wyndham Street, was summoned, at the instance of Inspector Ritchie, for beating a gong to the annoyance of the neighbourhood. It appeared that there was a celebration of the anniversary of a death at this particular house, and the beating of gongs was a part of the celebration. Mr. Irvine, from the Education Department opposite, sent a complaint to the police on Monday. In consequence an Indian constable was despatched to the scene, and heard the beating of the gongs and other noises. Under cross examination by Mr. Reginald Harding, who appeared for the defendant, witness said they were "making noise by music." P. C. Rutledge spoke to having visited the house the following day and found a great noise proceeding from it, caused by the beating of drums and gongs. He inquired if a permit had been obtained, and on being answered in the negative, said the performance must stop until such had been procured. The noise then ceased.

Mr. Harding argued that it had not been proved that this man was beating a gong or that he was the owner of the house. He further contended that no permit was required for a religious service, or for a marriage or a death service.

Defendant was put in the box and stated that the beating of gongs was occasioned by his brother's death.

Mr. Harding—Why did you beat the gongs. Defendant—It is necessary to do so.

Defendant added that the Registrar-General told him it was unnecessary to obtain a permit. The summons was dismissed.

HONGKONG'S "SEVEN AGES."

Some clever lines in the *Straits Times* are worth adapting for local consumption.

All the East's a stage,
And all the men and women merely players.
They have their homeward and their outward ways.

And one man in his time plays many parts,
His Acts being seven ages: at first the Griffin,

With wonder in his eyes at all he sees,
Who loving his yellow brothers, early takes,
Kind interest in Chinamen and things;
And then the malevolent, who grows at all,
The olimate, dollars, boarding house and "boy."

Waiting for his release: And then the Clubman,

Cognizant of brands, boasting his prowess
With the dainty fair,
In ornate ballroom or in Peak chalet;

And then the Volunteer,
An outpost of the Empire, one who thinks,
Of England's prestige, and her need of men,
Who loves a duty honoured by that need.

And then the M.L.C. by age matured,
With mien portentous, and a wealth of words,
Chairman of many clubs, with envied shares
In Banks and Docks. The sixth age shifts,
To deck of P. & O.; he's homeward bound,
His liver rather worse for wear and tear.

His winter clothes, well saved, a sight too small.
Last scene of all, that ends our Griffin's tale,
A quiet English home, semi-dividends,
A peaceful constant linking with the East,
By weekly mail and visiting of friends.

At Shanghai Police Court, on Jan. 14th, F. M. Goode was committed for trial on charges of the embezzlement of \$100, May 25th: \$78.20, April 25th; \$158.20, April 25th; and £23, June 11th; and on charges of larceny of Tls. 40, August 15th; Tls. 382.08, May 23rd; Tls. 551.32, July 6th; Tls. 606.15, October 10th; and \$901.32, May 4th. The accused reserved his defence and waived his right to trial by jury.

CANTON.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

January 9th.

RIOTOUS POLICE PUNISHED.

It is reported that the authorities have punished about twenty of the policemen who recently attacked the employees of the Lok Sin Theatre; nine were sentenced to receive 50 blows each and the rest to be in the stocks for fifteen days.

KOWLOON MURDER: CHINESE REWARD OFFER.

The Chief Superintendent of Police here has received instructions from Viceroy Chou Fu to issue a proclamation offering a reward of \$1000 for information which may lead to the arrest of the person or persons who were concerned in the murder of Mr. J. R. Craik of the Kowloon Docks.

BOYCOTT AFFAIRS.

It appears that Viceroy Chou Fu is determined to suppress the boycott movement before it spreads any further inland. His Excellency has given instructions to the Nam Hoi and Poon Yu magistrates to crush the boycott with an iron hand. The following is a translation of the confidential despatch I referred to in my previous letter:

"An Imperial Edict was issued last year informing the public that the United States Government had considerably modified the Chinese Exclusion Act and warned the people to cease boycotting American goods. At present the United States Government has requested their merchants and naval authorities to raise relief funds to assist the sufferers of the Kiang-Su famine. This is evidence that America and China are on peaceful terms. I have received information that meetings have again been convened at the Kwong Chai Hospital and speeches delivered to exhort the people to boycott American goods. I believe the people who convene these meetings are men who are desirous of creating trouble. Those who attended the meetings and listened to such speeches should give careful consideration before they act as it might lead them into serious trouble. I heard that on this occasion the chief promoter is Ma Tat Shun who had on several previous occasions disturbed the peace. For the above acts he was on one occasion imprisoned. You are requested to arrest Ma Tat Shun and to give immediate instructions to destroy all the placards and also to inform all the local newspapers that they are not to publish any articles contributed by this class of people concerning boycott affairs. If any person or persons should be discovered to have destroyed these orders, I will cause them to be most severely punished."

CANTON-HANKOW RAILWAY: HOT TIME.

I informed you in my last letter that Viceroy Chou Fu had left Canton for a long tour of inspection and at time of writing H. E. is not back yet. As the railway affair is a matter of vital importance, especially at this critical moment when the president and directors have refused to permit the deputies and the committee appointed by the Viceroy to examine the accounts, Deputy Wong Taotai reported the interview to the Provincial Treasurer and Shum Taotai (the Viceroy being absent). On the 7th instant Shum Taotai went personally with the deputies and the committee to audit the accounts. President Cheung Ho Chai, foreseeing trouble, pleaded illness after the first interview and has probably returned to Heung Shan. Shum Taotai asked treasurers Lo Po Shun and Chow Lun Shui to produce all the deposit receipts of monies invested. Only seven deposit receipts of banks were produced, and before they were gone through a general disturbance started. Voices were heard from all directions urging violence. Shum Taotai, fearing that in the confusion the bank deposit receipts might be snatched away, immediately told Lo to put them away, and told him that he held him responsible should any of them be missing. Fortunately the police who were detailed to preserve the peace were in stronger force than usual. On hearing the noise they rushed into the office and averted a serious disturbance. Shum Taotai told Lo that he knew that the 200 or 300 men who were present and represented themselves as shareholders were men engaged by the direct-

ors' clique to create a disturbance, and he could see through the trick they had planned to play. On the following day (24th instant) the Provincial Treasurer and Shum Taotai sent a despatch to the Railway Company accompanied by a summons ordering Lo and Chow to appear immediately before them at the Government Railway Office under the penalty of arrest if they refused to do so. Lo and Chow complied with the summons. They were told that in future the investigation of accounts will not be held at the railway office but at the Government Railway Office, and were requested to sign a statement that they will produce all the deposit receipts on the following day for inspection. Lo at first refused to produce more than 10 receipts, but on being told that they would not be released unless they signed a statement that all the receipts would be produced they finally did so, and were permitted to leave the court.

The Yau Cheun Po (Board of Railways and Communication) at Peking on receipt of a telegram from Chan Kang Yu and other shareholders sent the following reply by cable:—

"We have received your telegram stating that shareholders of the Yust-Han Railway Company have appointed Chan Kang Yu, Y'ong Sai Nam, Shing King Shenn and Chu Ping Cheong to audit the accounts of the company. As these four persons were nominated by the shareholders and approved of by the Viceroy, it is the duty of those four gentry to proceed to the company's office and justly examine the accounts. They are to report to us from time to time the result of their investigations."

MACAO.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

January 16th.

NEW BANK NOTE.

The new issue of notes by the Banco Nacional Ultramarino will be welcomed by the people of this city. It will, I hope, tend to lessen the circulation of the debased Chinese subsidiary coins in Macao and in your Colony.

THE TAX ON PRINTING.

Senhor Olympio d'Oliveira, the "Inspector da Fazenda," has countermanded the order for the stamping of "expresses."

AN ENTERTAINMENT.

The Terence Ramsdale Popular English Entertainers are in Macao and will give two performances on Saturday and Sunday next in the Theatre of D. Pedro V. It is so seldom that a travelling company of entertainers deign to pay us a visit that I hope that their venture will prove a success.

WAR SHIP.

H.M.S. *Robin* is in our inner harbour; she arrived yesterday. The *Rio Lima*, which has been outside practising, has returned to her usual mooring.

VICEROY SHUM SHY OF EXILE.

AN ILLUSTRIOUS "PASSIVE RESISTER."

Our readers know that Viceroy Shum, late of Canton, disliked the idea of going to such a far-off charge as the Yunkwei. Something nearer the Throne, or the backstairs at Peking, is his preference. His prolonged lingering at Shanghai, in face of Imperial orders to proceed at once to the far North West, illustrates how stubborn officialism may still prevail in China. A well-informed contemporary says it is considered certain that Viceroy Tsen Chun-hsuan, who is still in Shanghai, will not take over the administration of Yunkwei, but that he will be sent to another place. It is rumoured that Viceroy Tuan Faog will be transferred soon to Tientsin and that Tsen will then take his place in Nanking. Viceroy Wei Kuang-tao, who was at the head of Yunkwei in 1901 and who was, after the death of Lui Kun-yi, transferred to Nanking and later to Foochow, and who in 1905 retired into private life, will probably be again appointed Viceroy of Yunkwei.

The Dock Company's contract for the repair of the *Frons* is expected to be completed at the beginning of next month, after which she will proceed to Saigon, where further repairs will be carried out.

INDO-CHINA STEAM NAVIGATION CO., LTD.

IMPORTANT MEETING.

[Special Report for the Hongkong Daily Press.]

London, December 18th.

An extraordinary general meeting of the holders in the Indo-China Steam Navigation Co., Ltd., was held at the London office of the Company, in Cornhill, on the 11th inst. for the purpose of confirming the resolution passed on the 26th November, and for subdividing the shares in the capital of the company and for making consequential alterations in the articles of association. Mr. W. Keswick, M.P., presided, and there were also present Messrs. W. Paterson, Henry Beagley (directors), R. H. R. Burder, James Morton, J. R. Michael, John S. Hogg and others.

The CHAIRMAN explained that the business done at the last meeting only required confirmation or rejection and could not be debated upon, though in regard to the authority given by the resolution then passed, and which he hoped would be confirmed, they could, if necessary, discuss and debate upon the new proposals and make such amendments as they thought fit. He proposed that the resolution passed at the general meeting of the company on the 26th November last be confirmed.

Mr. W. PATERSON seconded.

Mr. BURDER.—Before the resolution is put to the meeting, Mr. Chairman, I think we should like some assurance in regard, first of all, as to the directors, and dealing more especially with clause 71, "whereby a director can be required in writing by all his co-directors," and so on. At the present time, I believe there are only four directors on the Board, and as the Chairman promised at the last ordinary general meeting, held in June, that five directors will be appointed I should like some assurance on the point. I think the words of the clause are rather dangerous with only four directors. In regard to the debentures I should like to point out that, at the present time, the reserve fund is all in ships and steamers.

The CHAIRMAN.—To what clause do you refer, Mr. Burder?

Mr. BURDER.—I am dealing with the issue of debentures not exceeding the amount of the issued capital. I am dealing with the borrowing powers "whereby the company can borrow in debentures the amount of the paid-up capital of the company." At the present time the reserve fund of the company is all in ships and steamers. There is no actual cash reserve, and I think we should like an assurance from the Chairman whereby the reserve fund may be gradually placed in securities or cash, because if the board are going to borrow £260,000 the position of the company would be unwieldy.

The CHAIRMAN.—Touching the latter part of Mr. Burder's remarks regarding the issue of debentures for any such amount that is, of course, out of the question. We could not deal with so much money. As far as the appointment of another director is concerned we certainly hope that before our next general meeting a fifth director will have taken his seat. If he has not taken his seat at any rate there will be one proposed at the general meeting for appointment, but I hope we may have an additional director on the board before that meeting. Our desire now is what it was when I last spoke on this subject some months ago, that we should select some one specially acquainted with the trade of China and not intimately connected with it. We have been fortunate enough in getting one director since our general meeting, or at about the time of that meeting, who entirely answers to that requirement, and we hope that by waiting a little while we may obtain another. If not, gentlemen, we shall have to do the best we can and make the best selection possible. But I can say that, if not before, certainly at our next general meeting there will be a fifth director appointed (Hear, Hear).

Mr. BURDER.—Mr. Chairman, excuse me one minute. About the issue of debentures. I think if you gave an assurance at the meeting that only one-half of this amount will be issued for two or three years it will be very satisfactory.

The CHAIRMAN.—I don't think we shall be more and hope the issue may be comparatively moderate. Even to one-half we don't intend to go if we can possibly avoid it. I don't see any occasion to go to it if we can obtain money in more reasonable terms through debentures, and we could issue debentures on reasonable terms and pay them off and so liberate the capital of the Company. It would be an advantage to shareholders. They would derive a better dividend.

Mr. BURDER.—Will the reserve fund be converted into cash?

The CHAIRMAN.—I think that is the right destination of a reserve fund when a company has reached a position that will enable it to maintain its reserve in a liquid form and not in its business. Hitherto arrangements of extension of building have justified the application of the reserve to the payment for steamers. Fortunately it has proved a very satisfactory way up to date of dealing with that reserve. I think now that we have preference shares and debentures we might be wise to have the reserve readily available for contingencies.

Mr. BURDER.—I am much obliged, Sir.

The CHAIRMAN.—I now put the resolution.

Mr. MORTON.—At our last meeting I understood that an opportunity was to be given of fully discussing the various amendments in this paper. I ask the question because I was not prepared at that meeting to go fully into the matter. I understood that all the shareholders would have an opportunity of discussing these articles of association. I was assured that such was the case.

The CHAIRMAN.—You asked to have them read again?

Mr. MORTON.—Yes, Sir.

The CHAIRMAN.—That can be done now.

Mr. MORTON.—My idea is that if we pass this resolution now the effect is that the business is done and over.

The CHAIRMAN.—So far as the resolution goes that we have now to confirm, if it be confirmed it is finished with.

Mr. MORTON.—The resolutions about these articles of association were deferred at the last meeting till to-day.

The CHAIRMAN.—Yes, the second part. I am afraid we are in a little confusion, either you or I. The second part begins on page 10, half way down the page, "Additional resolutions," and so on. These are subject to such drastic criticism as you choose to give them; or to rejection or amendment if you like.

Mr. MORTON.—May I ask what is the meaning of the resolution you are submitting now?

The CHAIRMAN.—It is to confirm alterations in the articles of association. The second resolutions that we come to act on the resolution that we have now to confirm.

Mr. MORTON.—I was not aware of that, Sir. I understood we should have an opportunity of discussing all these amendments very fully.

The CHAIRMAN.—I may say I should regret exceedingly if you felt anything has been omitted, or desired to call attention to any point, and because you cannot now amend what was passed. You should move the rejection of the resolution to confirm. If you reject it the whole procedure would be upset, and we should be in chaos.

Mr. MORTON.—Are we to understand it is impossible to amend these resolutions now?

The CHAIRMAN.—Yes, those adopted at last meeting.

Mr. MORTON.—All we have to do to-day is to obtain further information on the subject?

The CHAIRMAN.—It is to confirm or reject the resolution, not to alter it. But to obtain, if you desire it, information on the new business submitted.

Mr. MORTON.—You either reject the lot or confirm the lot. That seems to me to be a most unbusinesslike way of doing it.

The CHAIRMAN.—It is the legal way with a confirmatory resolution.

Mr. MORTON.—At the last meeting I asked the question whether we should have an opportunity of discussing these. They are drawn up by a solicitor, and we don't understand them, and unless we understand them how can we vote upon them. It was for that reason that I asked whether we should have an opportunity of going fully into them. If that is your decision I am very sorry, sir.

The CHAIRMAN.—What is it you desire to know?

Mr. MORTON.—I wanted to ask whether, when these shares are divided, the holders of a small number of shares as well as the holders of a large number of shares have an equal power of voting at any of these meetings?

The CHAIRMAN.—We don't interfere with the voting power.

Mr. MORTON.—It was in regard to the substitution of article 17 that caused me to ask that question.

The CHAIRMAN.—"That article 17 shall be cancelled and that the following article shall be substituted therefor."

Mr. MORTON.—Yes.

The CHAIRMAN.—The voting power is exactly as it was. We don't interfere with it; but in the second series of resolutions which will be proposed, not confirmed, to-day, it is stated that we can attach certain conditions to the issue. We do not propose any interference, in any shape or form, with the voting power. It will remain exactly as it is.

Mr. J. S. Hogg inquired of the Chairman as to the position of depositors provided debentures were issued.

Mr. J. R. MICHAEL.—If we are going to confirm these resolutions which deal with £5½ per cent—

The CHAIRMAN.—We will come to that presently. We want to deal with what we did at the last meeting by confirming the resolution.

The motion confirming the resolution passed on the 26th November was put to the meeting and carried unanimously.

The resolution was as follows:—

RESOLUTIONS.

That the Article of Association of the Company be altered in manner following:—

(a) There shall be added at the end of Article 8 the following words:—

"The Board may also issue any of the shares which for the time being shall be issuable credited as fully paid in satisfaction of any dividend or bonus, whether such dividend or bonus shall be declared to be payable out of any reserve fund of the Company or otherwise, and in the event of any shares being so issued the Board may exercise the power and shall observe the provisions conferred by and contained in Article 1000B as to the issue of fractional certificates, the filing of a proper contract and otherwise."

(b) That Article 17 shall be cancelled and that the following article shall be substituted therefor, namely:—

"17. The company may by special resolution subdivide the ordinary resolution consolidate its shares or any of them. The special resolution whereby any share is subdivided may determine that as between the holders of the shares resulting from such subdivision no one of such shares shall have any preference or special advantage as regards dividend, capital, voting or otherwise over or as compared with the others or other."

(c) The following article shall be inserted after Article 19, namely:—

"19. If at any time the capital is divided into different classes of shares, the rights attached to any class (unless otherwise provided by the terms of issue of the shares of that class) may be varied with the consent in writing of the holders of three-fourths of the issued shares of that class, or with the sanction of an extraordinary resolution passed at a separate General Meeting of the holders of the shares of the class. To every such separate General Meeting the provisions of these regulations relating to General Meetings shall *mutatis mutandis* apply, but so that the necessary quorum shall be two persons at least holding or representing by proxy one-third of the issued shares of the class."

(d) In Article 25 the word "thirty" shall be substituted for the word "twenty-one."

(e) In Article 27 the words "every transfer of a share shall be by deed" shall be cancelled, and the words "the instrument of transfer of any share shall be in writing" shall be substituted therefor. And in the same article the words "signed both by the transferor and transferee" and "and" shall be inserted after the word "Company."

(f) In Article 28 the words "(not being one of several joint holders)" shall be inserted after the word "Member," and the following words shall be added at the end of the same article, namely:—

"And in case of the death of any one or more of the joint holders of any registered shares, the survivors or survivor, or the executors or admini-

"nistrators of a deceased sole survivor shall be the only persons recognized by the Company as having any title to or interest in such shares."

(g) The following articles shall be inserted after Article 38, namely:—

"BORROWING POWERS."

"39A. The Board may from time to time at their discretion raise, or borrow, or secure the payment of any sum or sums of money for the purposes of the Company, but so that the amount at any one time owing in respect of moneys so raised, borrowed or secured shall not, without the sanction of a General Meeting, exceed the amount of the paid-up capital for the time being of the Company. Nevertheless, no lender or other person dealing with the Company shall be concerned to see or enquire whether this limit is observed."

"39B. The Board may raise or secure the payment or repayment of such moneys in such manner and upon such terms and conditions in all respects as they think fit, and in particular by the issue of debentures or debenture stock of the Company charged upon all or any part of the property of the Company (both present and future), including its uncalled capital for the time being, or not so charged."

"39C. Debentures, debenture stock or other securities of the Company may be made assignable, free from any equities between the Company and the person to whom the same may be issued."

"39D. The Directors shall cause a proper register to be kept in accordance with Section 43 of the Companies Act, 1862, of all mortgages and charges specifically affecting the property of the Company, and shall duly comply with the requirements of Section 14 of the Companies Act, 1900, in regard to the registration of mortgages and charges therein specified and otherwise."

(h) In Article 45, the words "five or more" shall be omitted, the word "issued" shall be substituted for the word "subscribed," the word "upon which all calls or other sums then due have been paid" shall be inserted after the word "Company" where that word first occurs, and the words "and the provisions of Section 13 of the Companies Act, 1900, shall apply" shall be added at the end of the same article.

(i) Article 46 shall be cancelled.

(j) In Article 51 the words "and not more than one calendar month" shall be omitted.

(k) The following articles shall be inserted after Article 51, namely:

"51A. Where it is proposed to pass a special resolution, the two meetings may be convened by one and the same notice, and it shall be no objection to such notice that it only convenes the second meeting contingently on the resolution being passed by the requisite majority at the first meeting."

"51B. The accidental omission to give notice of a meeting to any of the Members shall not invalidate any resolution passed at any such meeting."

(l) In Article 55 the words "is carried" shall be omitted and the following words shall be substituted therefor, namely:—"has been carried, or carried by a particular majority, or lost, or not carried by a particular majority."

(m) The following articles shall be inserted after Article 55, namely:—

"55A. The Chairman of a General Meeting may with the consent of and shall if so directed by the meeting, adjourn the same from time to time and from place to place, but no business shall be transacted at any adjourned meeting other than the business left unfinished at the meeting from which the adjournment took place."

"55B. Any poll duly demanded on the election of a Chairman of a meeting or on any question of adjournment shall be taken at the meeting and without adjournment."

"55C. The demand of a poll shall not prevent the continuance of a meeting for the transaction of any business other than the question on which a poll has been demanded."

(n) In Article 60 the concluding words "or person only shall be entitled to vote in respect thereof" shall be omitted, and the following words shall be substituted therefor, namely:—"the Member whose name stands first on the register, and no other, shall be entitled to vote in respect thereof."

(o) The following article shall be substituted for Article 62, namely:—

"62. No Member shall be entitled in respect of any share held by him alone or jointly to be present, or to vote on any question either personally or by proxy, or as proxy for another Member, at any general Meeting or upon a poll, or be reckoned in a quorum, whilst any call or

other sum shall be due and payable to the Company in respect of any of the shares of such Member."

(p) In Article 71 the words "or make an assignment for the benefit of or an arrangement with the creditors in number and value of his creditors" shall be omitted and the following words shall be substituted therefor, namely:—"or compound with his creditors, or accept or hold any other office or place of profit under the Company except that of Managing Director or Manager or Trustee of a deed for securing debentures or debenture stock of the Company, or be requested in writing by all his co-Directors to resign or be absent from the meetings of the Directors during a period of three calendar months without special leave of absence from his co-Directors."

(q) The following article shall be inserted after Article 79, namely:—

"79A. The meetings and proceedings of any such Committee, consisting of two or more Members shall be governed by the provisions herein contained for regulating the meetings and proceedings of the Directors so far as the same are applicable thereto and are not superseded by any regulations made by the Directors under the last preceding clause."

(r) In Article 81 the following words shall be inserted after the words "statement of accounts" namely: "together with a report of the Board as to the state and condition of the Company, and as to the amount which they recommend to be paid out of the profits by way of dividend and bonus to the Members, and the amount (if any) which they propose to carry to the reserve fund according to the provisions in that behalf hereinafter contained."

(s) The following article shall be substituted for Article 83, namely:—

"83. Auditors shall be appointed and their duties regulated in accordance with the Companies Act, 1900, Sections 21, 22 and 23, or any statutory modification thereof for the time being in force."

(t) The following article shall be substituted for Article 84, namely:—

"84. The management of the business of the Company shall be vested in the Board who in addition to the powers and authorities by these articles or otherwise expressly conferred upon them may exercise all such powers and do all such acts and things as may be exercised or done by the Company and are not hereby or by statute expressly directed or required to be exercised or done by the Company in General Meeting, but subject nevertheless to the provisions of the statutes and of these articles and to any regulations from time to time made by the Company in General Meeting: provided that no regulation so made shall invalidate any prior act of the Board which would have been valid if such regulation had not been made."

(u) In Article 86 the words "at least one Director" shall be substituted for the words "two Directors" in the place in which such last-mentioned words first occur, the word "the" immediately preceding the words "two Directors" where such last-mentioned words secondly occur shall be deleted, and the words "one of whom shall be a Director in whose presence the seal is so fixed" shall be inserted after the words "two Directors" where such last-mentioned words secondly occur.

(v) The following words shall be added at the end of Article 88, namely:—

"The Board are also authorized to pay out of the funds of the Company all expenses of or connected with the issue of debentures, debenture stock or other securities issued for the purposes of the Company, and if the Company shall at any time offer any of its shares to the public for subscription, to exercise the powers conferred upon the Company by Section 8 of the Companies Act, 1900, but so that the commission shall not exceed 15 per cent on the shares in each case offered."

(w) In Article 91 there shall be substituted for the words "all acts of a Board" the following words, namely:—

"All acts done by any meeting of the Board or by a Committee of the Board, or by any person acting as a Director."

(x) The following article shall be substituted for Article 92, namely:—

"92. The Board shall until otherwise prescribed by a General Meeting be paid out of the funds of the Company by way of remuneration or salary for their services at the rate of £1,500 per annum, and such remuneration or salary shall be deemed to accrue from day to day and shall be divided among them in such proportions and manner as the Board may from time to time determine."

(y) The following article shall be substituted for article 96, namely:—

"96. All moneys appropriated to the reserve fund shall be carried to a separate account, under that heading, in the books of the Company, and the objects of such fund are hereby declared to be to meet and provide against any unforeseen contingencies, losses or extraordinary demands upon the Company, or for special dividends, or for repairing, improving or maintaining any of the property of the Company and for such other purposes as the Board shall in their absolute discretion think conducive to the interests of the Company. The Board may divide the reserve fund into such special funds as they think fit, with full power to employ the assets constituting the reserve fund in the business of the Company, but they shall not be bound to keep the same separate from the other assets."

(z) The following articles shall be inserted after Article 101, namely:—

"100A. The Board may retain any dividend upon which the Company has a lien and may apply the same in or towards satisfaction of the debts, liabilities or engagements in respect of which the lien exists."

"100B. Any General Meeting declaring a dividend or bonus may direct payment of such dividend or bonus wholly or in part by the distribution of specific assets, and in particular of paid-up shares, debentures or debenture stock of the Company, or paid-up shares, debentures or debenture stock of any other company, or in any one or more of such ways, and the Board shall give effect to any such resolution; and, where any difficulty arises in regard to the distribution, they may settle the same as they think expedient, and in particular, may issue fractional certificates, and may fix the value for distribution of such specific assets, or any part thereof, and may determine that cash payments shall be made to any members upon the footing of the value so fixed in order to adjust the rights of all parties, and may vest any such specific assets in Trustees upon such trusts for the persons entitled to the dividend as may seem expedient to the Board. Where requisite, a proper contract shall be filed in accordance with Section 7 of the Companies Act, 1900, and the Board may appoint any person to sign such contract on behalf of the persons entitled to the dividend and such appointment shall be effective."

"100C. A transfer of shares shall not pass the right to any dividend declared thereon before the registration of the transfer."

"100D. Any one of several persons who are registered as joint holders of any share may give effectual receipts for all dividends and payments on account of dividends in respect of such share."

"100E. Unless otherwise directed, any dividend may be paid by cheque or warrant sent through the post to the registered address of the Member entitled, or, in the case of joint holders, to the registered address of that one whose name stands first on the register in respect of the joint holding, and every cheque or warrant so sent shall be made payable to the order of the person to whom it is sent."

"ACCOUNTS."

"100F. The books of account shall be kept at the registered office of the Company or at such other place or places as the Board think fit."

"100G. The Board shall from time to time determine whether and to what extent and at what times and places and under what conditions or regulations the accounts and books of the Company or any of them shall be open for inspection by the Members; and no Member shall have any right of inspecting any account or book or document of the Company except as conferred by statute or authorized by the Board or by a resolution of the Company in General Meeting."

(aa) In Article 102, the words "at the time when the letter containing the same would have been delivered in the ordinary course of the post" shall be omitted, and the following words shall be substituted therefor, namely:—"on the day following that on which the envelope or wrapper containing the same is posted."

(bb) The following article shall be inserted after Article 102, namely:—

"102A. (1) If the Company shall be wound up, whether voluntarily or otherwise the liquidators may, with the sanction of an extraordinary resolution, divide among the contributories, in specie or in kind, any part of the assets of the Company, and may, with the like sanction, vest any part of the assets of the Company in trustees upon such trusts for the benefit of the contributories or any of them, as the liquidators with the like sanction, shall think fit."

(2) If thought expedient any such division may be otherwise than in accordance with the

"legal rights of the contributors, and in particular any class may be given preferential or special rights, or may be excluded altogether or in part; but in case any division otherwise than in accordance with the legal rights of the contributors shall be determined on, any contributor who would be prejudiced thereby shall have a right to dissent and ancillary rights as if such determination were a special resolution passed pursuant to Section 161 of the Companies Act, 1862.

"(3) In case any of the shares to be divided as aforesaid involve a liability to calls or otherwise any person entitled under such division to any of the said shares may within ten days after the passing of the extraordinary resolution by notice in writing direct the liquidator to sell his proportion and pay him the net proceeds and the liquidator shall, if practicable, act accordingly.

The Chairman.—Now, gentlemen, we proceed. There may be as much discussion as you please over the new resolutions. I propose the following resolutions:—

1. (a) That each of the existing 120,000 shares of £10 each in the Company's capital be divided into two shares of £5 each.

(b) That the shares resulting from the division of each of the 49,589 issued shares be re-numbered so that the shares representing that now numbered 1 be respectively numbered 1 and 120,000 and those representing that now numbered 2 be respectively numbered 2 and 120,002, and so on, and that the shares resulting from the division of the 70,411 unissued shares, if and when the same shall be issued, be numbered in like manner so that the shares representing that which would have been numbered 49,590 be respectively numbered 49,590 and 169,590 and those representing that which would have been numbered 49,591 be respectively numbered 49,591 and 169,591 and so on, and that the shares to be numbered 1 to 120,000 be called Preferred Ordinary Shares, and those to be numbered 120,001 to 240,000 be called Deferred Ordinary Shares.

Probably it is better to read these through. If you have anything to say it would perhaps shorten matters up to section c if you make your remarks now.

Mr. MICHAEL.—I don't think any remarks are necessary on these points.

The CHAIRMAN (reading).—

(c) That as between the holders of the said Preferred Ordinary Shares and the holders of the said Deferred Ordinary Shares the holders of such Preferred Ordinary Shares shall be entitled to a fixed cumulative preferential dividend at the rate of £5½ per cent per annum.—

Allow me here to state that representations having been made to the Board that £5½ per cent is a rate of interest on the cumulative preferred shares considered too low, and that £6 per cent ought to be substituted, we have given the matter consideration, and, we cannot but recognize that £6 per cent will throw the ordinary share a little into the back ground. I trust however that the company is sufficiently vigorous and will be sufficiently profitable to allow of £6 per cent, without injury to the ordinary share. If it be your wish we will amend our proposition by changing the £5½ into £6 (applause.) Therefore, I will read the £5½ as £6 per cent, and the lines would therefore read, "the holders of such Preferred Ordinary Shares shall be entitled to a fixed cumulative preferential dividend at the rate of £6 per cent per annum.—"

—on the capital paid up on such Preferred Ordinary Shares add to no more than such dividend and that in the event of any return of capital being made upon a winding up or otherwise, the holders of the said Preferred Ordinary Shares shall as between themselves and the holders of the said Deferred Ordinary Shares be respectively entitled to receive the full nominal amounts of the said Preferred Ordinary Shares held by them respectively and all arrears or deficiency of their said preferential dividend whether declared or not up to the commencement of the winding-up before any return of capital is made to the holders of the said Deferred Ordinary Shares, but that the holder of the said Preferred Ordinary Shares shall not be entitled to any further share in the surplus assets of the Company: provided that the Directors may in any year in which in their opinion such payment may be made without prejudice to the said preferential dividend up to the end of such year declare and pay an interim dividend on the said Deferred Ordinary Shares in respect of the first half of such year.

(d) That the said division shall be made on and shall take effect as from the 1st day of January, 1907, and that the Directors be and they are hereby authorized to do all such acts and things as they may deem expedient for the purpose of effecting the said division.

That is resolution No. 1. I move its adoption.

Mr. PATTERSON.—I beg to second.

The motion was carried unanimously.

The CHAIRMAN.—Now the second resolution. 2. That on and from the 1st day of January, 1907, the Articles of Association be altered in manner following:—

(a) Article 5 shall be cancelled and the following article shall be substituted therefor:—

"5. The nominal capital of the Company is £1,200,000 divided into 120,000 Preferred Ordinary Shares of £5 each and 120,000 Deferred Ordinary Shares of £5 each, and the holders of such Preferred Ordinary Shares are entitled to such rights as are conferred upon them by the resolution of the company whereby the shares in the original capital of the Company were subdivided into the classes aforesaid."

(b) Article 6 shall be cancelled and the following article shall be substituted therefor, namely:—

"6. The Board may allot and issue the shares of the Company to such persons on such terms and conditions and at such times as they think fit. Provided always that it and when the number of the issued shares of the Company of either of the classes mentioned in the last preceding article shall amount to 60,000 no further shares of such class shall be issued by the Board without the sanction of a General Meeting of the Company."

(c) In Articles 48 and 53 the number "1,000" shall be substituted for the number "500" wherever such last-mentioned number occurs.

(d) Article 97 shall be cancelled and the following article shall be substituted therefor:—

"97. Subject as aforesaid the profits of the Company which it shall from time to time be determined to divide in respect of the year commencing on the 1st day of January, 1907, and of every subsequent year commencing on a 1st day of January, shall be applied first in payment of a cumulative preferential dividend at the rate of £5½ per cent per annum upon the capital paid up on the Preferred Ordinary Shares of the Company for such year and the residue thereof shall be applied in payment of a dividend on the Deferred Ordinary Shares of the Company in proportion to the capital paid up thereon. Provided that notwithstanding anything contained in this article the Board may in any year in which in their opinion such payment may be made without prejudice to the said preferential dividend up to the end of such year declare and pay an interim dividend on the Deferred Ordinary Shares of the Company in respect of the first half of such year and by way of dividend on account. The Board may also from time to time pay such interim dividends on the Preferred Ordinary Shares as in their judgment the position of the Company justifies."

(e) After such new Article 97 the following article shall be added:—

"97A. The Directors may, with the sanction of the Company in General Meeting, declare a dividend to be paid to the Members according to their rights and interests in the profits, and may fix the time for payment."

That is the second resolution which I submit, gentlemen. Will some one second it?

Mr. BEAULKY. I second the resolution.

The resolution was carried unanimously.

Mr. BURDER.—May I ask how the Board proposes to issue the new shares of the company?

The CHAIRMAN.—We have not yet considered how that can be done. Of course they cannot be issued at a discount. They must be at par or above it, and it will be for the board when the time comes to think of how best that should be done—whether by submitting them to the shareholders at present interested, which would be the fairest way, I think, or simply by an announcement that a certain number of shares will be issued thus completing the first issue of 60,000 shares. We could not very well to day say how that is to be done, but I think that the shareholders at the time of this proposal should have the offer of them. I don't think there is anything further, gentlemen, to state. That is all the business. We shall have a confirmatory meeting in regard to these second resolutions, we have passed to-day, on the 27th inst. I am much obliged for your attendance.

Mr. MICHAEL.—I have now much pleasure in proposing a vote of thanks to the board for acceding to the wishes of shareholders in altering the rate of interest on the preferred ordinary shares, from 5½ to 6 per cent, and I hope there will always be good harmony between the board of directors and the shareholders.

Mr. BURDER.—I have much pleasure in seconding that resolution. I hope the reserve fund will soon be converted into cash.

The CHAIRMAN.—I thank you, gentlemen, very much. We always appreciate knowing that what we do is satisfactorily regarded, and we do trust that the changes which are now in process of being effected will be to the strengthening of the company. The company is a splendid one, and I think we have all reason to be well pleased with it.

The meeting then terminated.

THE HONGKONG LAND RECLAMATION COMPANY, LIMITED.

The fifth report of the board of directors to the Ordinary Meeting of Shareholders to be held at the Company's Offices, Victoria Buildings, at 12 o'clock noon, on Saturday, January 26th, reads:—

Gentlemen, The Directors have now to submit to you a General Statement of the Affairs of the Company, and balance sheet for the year ending 31st December, 1906.

The net profits for the year, including \$383,058.73, brought forward from last account after paying all charges, amount to \$420,568.05. It is now proposed to pay a dividend of 7 per cent on the paid up capital after providing for which and writing off directors' and auditors' fees there remains a balance of \$349,841.05 to be carried to credit of a new profit and loss account.

DIRECTORS.

Mr. Shellim having resigned, Mr. D. M. Nissim, was invited to join the Board and this appointment now requires confirmation.

Messrs. A. J. Raymond and Ho Tung, now retire, but offer themselves for re-election.

AUDITORS.

The accounts have been audited by Messrs. W. H. Potts and A.O.D. Gourdin, who now retire, and are recommended for re-election.

W. J. Gresson,
Chairman.

BALANCE SHEET TO 31ST DECEMBER, 1906.

LIABILITIES.	\$	c.
Capital 25,000 shares at \$100 each	\$2,500,000	
of which are issued		
12,500 shares at \$100 each	\$1,250,000	
\$1,250.00, \$75 per share paid up		937,500.00
Loans Payable		300,000.00
Accounts Payable		2,603.65
Balance of Profit and Loss A/c		420,568.05
		\$1,660,669.70
ASSETS.	\$	c.
Cash		933.40
Amount invested in Mortgages		395,000.00
Amount invested in Property		1,147,866.58
Furniture		658.33
Accounts Receivable		116,211.29
		\$1,660,669.70

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT.

Dr.	\$	c.
To Charges Account		6,841.81
To Repairs to Property		690.55
To Crown Rent Account		1,894.00
To Government Rates Account		446.16
To Fire Insurance Account		487.75
Balance to be appropriated as follows:		
Directors' Fees	\$ 5,000.00	
Auditors' Fees	100.00	
Dividend of 7 per cent for the year	65,625.00	
Balance to be carried to New A/c	349,841.05	
		\$420,568.05
Cr.	\$	c.
By Balance from 1905		383,058.73
By Interest		28,151.53
By Rents		49,708.46
By Scrip Fees		9.00
		\$430,928.12

The Chinese Government proposes to make all the Boards follow the example of the Board of Domestic Affairs, in not having the official seal closed for a month during the New Year, but continue working as usual, as a step towards reforms.

THE DEPARTURE OF MR. AND MRS. ARCHIBALD LITTLE.

Mr. and Mrs. Archibald Little, who have just passed through Hongkong on the H.A.L.-S. *Hohenstaufen* bound for England, deserve far more notice than the average China hand can claim. Their work and position in China may be said to be in a class apart.

Mr. Archibald Little arrived in China in 1859, the year in which work on the Suez Canal was commenced, and a year prior to the first occupation of Peking by the Allied British and French troops. The latter part of his education had been in Berlin, and it was to one of the early German firms in Canton that he came out as a testaster. The British troops were at that time garrisoning the walls of the city. A year later (says the *N. C. Daily News*) Mr. Little arrived in Shanghai to find the Taipings, who had been besieged in Nanking, making their famous sortie under the Chung Wang, and devastating the province in which we live with fire and sword. Mr. Little visited Soochow, and interviewed the Chung Wang, who described himself as a Christian and spoke of the British "bretheren." He expressed a desire even to come on to Shanghai and ally himself with the British who were then battering the Manchu Dynasty in the North. As events turned out, however, as is well known, British and French diplomacy decided that the Taipings must be put down. In the winter of 1860-61 there being a total cessation of business in Shanghai, Mr. Little journeyed in Chekiang, Anhui and Kiangsi visiting the rebel and imperialists' camps and buying tea and silks. The following year he established a tea firm in Kinkiang and Hankow, and one incident of his stay in those ports was that he was mobbed and knocked insensible by Hunan braves in the streets of Hankow. Returning to Shanghai in 1864 Mr. Little, who had been joined by his brother the late Mr. Robert Little, assisted in establishing the firm of Latimer, Little & Co. During the next sixteen years he remained in the Settlement, in whose development both he and his brother took the liveliest interest. He served on the Municipal Council in 1881.

These early services to Shanghai itself have been overshadowed, as far as Mr. Archibald Little is concerned, by his achievement in the far west. The Yangtze gorges had been passed and the rich and beautiful province of Szechuan visited by other foreigners before Mr. Little made his first visit there, but as far as trading relations of any importance are concerned he can justly claim to be the pioneer in that part of China. His book "Through the Yangtze Gorges" has familiarized all the world with those magnificent and dangerous river passes. It was the outcome of a visit to Szechuan in 1883; another outcome was that in 1884 Mr. Little inaugurated a winter steamer service between Hankow and Ichang; hitherto steamers had only run in the summer. In 1887 Mr. Little established himself in Chungking, and travelled extensively in the province, though the port was not formally opened until 1890. It was in February 1893 that, accompanied by Mrs. Little, but acting as his own captain and engineer, Mr. Little made the first steam voyage upwards through the rapids, in the launch *Leechuan*. He applied for leave to form a company to improve the navigation of the rapids, by levying a toll on the traffic. This was refused, but by arrangement with the local officials, Mr. Little was enabled to open up his first mines in Szechuan. In 1894 he took the paddle-wheel steamer *Pioneer* to Chungking and made four trips with her between Chungking and Ichang, but as the Chinese Government had refused to allow the improvement of the rapids, this project had to be abandoned, as premature. Last year a London syndicate revived the proposal, under the auspices of the Asiatic Petroleum Co. and is now making application for Chinese consent. The *Pioneer* was sold by Mr. Little to the British Government, which converted her into the river gunboat *Kinsba*, still patrolling the upper reaches of the Yangtze. The Chungking Trading Company has continued to prosecute successful business and from it has grown the Kiangpoh Coal and Iron Mining Co., Ltd., which, armed with what may prove to be the last concession directly granted to foreigners, is beginning to operate coalfields and other enterprises

in the west. Reference has already been made to one of Mr. Little's books. It had a sequel "Mount Omi and Beyond", which contains a record of travel on the Tibetan borders. In 1904 Mr. Little made one of his longest journeys through Yunnan and Tongking. His latest literary work has been the "Far East", a most valuable and comprehensive volume, which is very modestly described by the author as "a perspective or conspectus of the geography and history of China and her neighbouring countries." It was reviewed in our columns about a year ago.

Since her marriage in 1886 Mrs. Archibald Little has been as thoroughly interested in China as Mr. Little himself, and she has shared in most of his journeyings with results that have been seen in the publication of many volumes. Already a successful novelist, Mrs. Little at first continued the form of fiction, but her most popular works have been descriptive volumes of travel. Her special gift is the power to visualize what she has seen for her readers. She is the author of a very full life of the late Li Hung-chang. It is, however, in connection with the anti-footbinding movement that Mrs. Little will be chiefly remembered in China. For ten years, in the face of much ridicule, opposition and apathy, she has been untiring in her crusade against the barbarous custom which crippled the women of China. Her achievement is of too recent date to make necessary any further record, but she has the immense satisfaction, before leaving the country, of seeing the Chinese themselves so earnestly taking up this particular reform that further agitation on the part of foreigners is considered superfluous.

A SOUTH SEA ISLANDS CONTRACT.

COMPLICATIONS WITH CAPT. O'KEEFE'S HEIRS.

Some three or four years ago, an adventurous sea captain named O'Keefe, well known throughout the Far East, was lost, it is supposed, in a typhoon. He was known by his intimates as "The King of Yap," an island in the South Seas, and he made periodic voyages in his little schooner from Yap to Hongkong with copra, beche-de-mer, and other island products. It was during one of those voyages that he disappeared from human ken, and the supposition is that he was caught in a typhoon and that his schooner foundered with all hands.

Captain O'Keefe was, we believe, an Irish American. He was an adventurer of the 18th century type, and many are the yarns told about him. One is that he acquired the island of Yap with its queen, who subsequently bore him children. When he died, his legitimate widow and family appeared from the United States as claimants of his valuable property in the Far East and in the South Seas. For, though an adventurer, O'Keefe had succeeded in acquiring a good deal of this world's goods, and he had some leasehold property in Hongkong which realised a goodly sum at public auction.

This is not a full and particular history of an interesting figure, however, but only a brief outline to introduce the following paragraph from one of our Netherlands India contemporaries, and to correct some of its mis-statements:

"Recently an American trader named O'Keefe died in the Molle islands, leaving riches which his heirs are disputing for. From there, he used to carry on trade with the Mapia islands, a group off the New Guinea coast, within the jurisdiction of the Sultan of Tidore, a vassal of the Netherlands India Government. O'Keefe bound the Mapia Chiefs to supply him, under contract, with all the copra produced on the islands.

"The hold of the Netherlands India Government on the islands is very slight indeed, and is only manifested by occasional visits of men-of-war. On O'Keefe's death, his contract rights in the islands passed over to his widow, a Filipino, and their children. The Government have directed that O'Keefe's contract with the Mapia chiefs should be confirmed to his heirs, on condition that they allow no other foreigners to settle there."—*Strait Times*.

MUNICIPAL INJUSTICE.

The *Shanghai Mercury* of January 12th says:—In the last minutes of the Municipal Council, published the other day, was the award of Mr. White-Cooper in the case of a lot of land, the whole of which is absorbed in the widening of the Ward Road and liable to free surrender under Art. VI of the Land Regulations. Mr. Major, to whom the land belonged, was allowed Tls 1,000. The land was evidently bought for a mere song years ago and was a long, narrow slip practically only of use as an addition to the properties on either side, too narrow to be used as an independent building site.

We do not think for a moment that Mr. Major was not entitled to this Tls 1,000, but it seems to us as though the Municipal was making fish of one person and fowl of another.

In 1898 a Mr. McMurray, a comparatively poor man, owned a piece of land just big enough to build him a house upon, and after he built his boundary wall, the Council informed him that they wanted a slice of that land for road extension, and naturally McMurray told them he wanted it himself and they could not have it. He was hailed before the Supreme Court, the Municipal Council having sought for an injunction to restrain him from building as it was alleged it was required for the extension of a road, and under Art. VI of the Land Regulations he was asked to surrender the land to the Municipal Council. The late Sir Nicholas Hannen, after hearing the case, delivered judgment in favour of McMurray and dismissed the petition of the Municipal, with costs. The Council appealed the case to the Privy Council, and in March, 1900, the judgment arrived here which was in favour of the Municipal Council. The judgment showed the value of Art. VI of the Land Regulations as a means of acquiring free land for road extensions, so long as the land is scheduled previous to Consular registration.

As we said before, we quite agree that Mr. Major is morally entitled to the Tls 1,000, but if Art. VI of the Land Regulations stand good, why should the Council pay the rich man the money for his land whilst the poor man had his land grabbed from him? We may be told it was a test case, but it does not seem to us fair that a poor man should have been picked out for the test case, as was the one to whom we refer.

BUYING A STEAMER.

INTERESTING LITIGATION AT SHANGHAI.

At H.M. Supreme Court, Shanghai, on January 10th, before F. S. A. Bourne, Esq., Acting Judge, (in Admiralty) was decided the case of Buchheister & Company v. s.s. *Draco* or the proceeds thereof.

His Lordship said:—The facts in this case are as follows: In December, 1905, Mr. John Baessler, shipbroker, a German subject, went to the plaintiffs, Messrs. Buchheister & Co., merchants, German subjects, and invited them to act as his agents in employing Messrs. John Palmer Junior & Co., of London, to purchase from Messrs. Thomas Wilson, Sons & Co., of Hull, the str. *Draco*; and in this manner the *Draco* was purchased on December 30th, 1905, for £5,000, drafts for which sum were handed to Buchheister by Baessler, £4,000 on January 12th and £1,000 in February, 1906, and by Buchheister remitted to Palmer in full payment. The *Draco* is a British steamship registered at Hull. Palmer was then authorized by Buchheister at the request of Baessler to find freight and send the ship out East. She arrived in Shanghai on June 5th last. On January 3rd, 1906, that is four days after he had purchased her, Mr. Baessler entered into a contract with Fong Tai, a Chinese firm, who described themselves therein as agents for Japanese, to sell them the ship, delivered in Japan, for £6,250, £6,000 to be paid at once and £250 on the arrival of the ship at Kobe, Japan, where she was to be made over. The contract provided that the bill of sale was to be made out in the name of Fong Tai & Co., c/o Buchheister & Co.; but this was not done. Wilson transferred to Palmer, who forwarded the bill of sale taken in their own name, dated January 17th, 1906, to

Buchheister, together with a Power of Attorney, authorising the Manager of the Hongkong & Shanghai Bank, Shanghai, to sell the ship, that is, to transfer her to the person entitled. The contract between Baessler and Fong Tai was shown to Buchheister in January, who put their name thereto. Messrs. Buchheister & Co. now sue the *Draco* for £3,125, balance of money they have expended upon her in repairs done, disbursements paid and necessities supplied in England, on her voyage out, and at Shanghai. Messrs. Fong Tai & Co. intervene as purchasers.

In order that an action *in rem* may lie at all the plaintiffs must show that their claim is covered by section 5 of the Admiralty Court Act 1861; unless they show this, no action lies against the ship. Now by that section if any owner or part owner of the ship is domiciled in China this action cannot be maintained, because the Admiralty Court would have no jurisdiction. The registered owners of the *Draco* are Messrs. Palmer & Co.; but they are bare Trustees. The beneficial owner is Mr. John Baessler, who bought the ship on December 30th, and agreed to sell her on January 3rd to Fong Tai as agent for Japanese. No doubt Buchheister is affected with notice of Fong Tai's equitable claim on account of Japanese; but it would seem there has been no sale to Fong Tai but an agreement to sell, that is, a contract without a conveyance, i.e. a transfer on the Register, so that Fong Tai's claim is *in personam* against Baessler. Baessler is then the equitable owner; and he is not domiciled in China, because domicile is here to be understood in its legal sense. (The *Pacific B.* and L. 234), and it has been decided that in English law a man does not change his domicile by residing at Shanghai (in re Tontal's Trusts 23 C. D. 532), because Shanghai is not a Sovereign State. Moreover he is not justiciable by this Court, while the ship is; facts which might be shown to be material to this question of jurisdiction under the Statute. I hold therefore that an action *in rem* will lie.

The next point is—does this claim fall into the category of balance of general mercantile account cases (see Williams and Bruce, Admiralty Practice, 3rd edition, p. 192), for if credit was given by Buchheister to Baessler in the ordinary course of business, and if the claim is in respect of the balance of a general mercantile account between them, and not in respect of an immediate necessity of the ship in order to preserve her or continue her on her voyage, the plaintiffs must fail.

In regard to credit, Palmer was merely an agent—a conduit pipe—whose intention is immaterial; but I am satisfied that credit was not given by Buchheister to Baessler in the ordinary course of business; it is clear that they would do nothing on Baessler's credit, but looked to the ship (the *Perla*, Swaby 354). This was sworn to by Mr. Tatlock, is supported by the correspondence, and is probable from the evidence in regard to Baessler's position and from the fact that German being founded on the Civil law gives the material man a maritime lien (see German Commercial Code, s. 754-5) which the English law does not, and from the fact that Buchheister and Baessler are both Germans.

On reference to the plaintiffs' particulars I do not think their account can be called a "general mercantile account" or "ordinary mercantile account," first because the ship is looked to as debtor and not the owner, and secondly because this account is concerned solely with the purchase and dispatch to the East of this particular ship on this particular voyage. That the following are chargeable against the ship I have no doubt whatever: Palmer's draft of March 22nd for £50.12.1 allotments of wages—on that date Palmer had nothing to receive on account of the *Draco*, having closed their account against the ship on March 1st, by drawing for a balance of £414; the Captain's drafts on Palmer for necessities at Port Said, Aden and Colombo, for the amounts of which Palmer drew on Buchheister—that Palmer was Agent makes no difference (the *Twenje* 13 Moore P. C. 185). In regard to the disbursements at London, Singapore and Shanghai there is certainly more difficulty and I lean at first to the opinion that the balance of these

accounts could not be charged against the ship because the Agents received freight at those places so as to make a debtor and creditor account, for if more freight had been collected, there need have been no debit balance, and the Statute was not intended to provide a collateral security. But looking to the cases, particularly the *Haurich Bjorn* 8 P. B. 151, which seems to decide that if money lent for necessities can be followed as so spent or as releasing other money so spent, although there may exist side by side a general mercantile account between the plaintiff and the ship owner, it can be recovered *in rem*—a case that was not upset on these points on appeal—I have come to the conclusion that these balances can be recovered *in rem*; and for the reasons stated above, namely that credit was not given to the owner but to the ship and that the account is particular to the ship and voyage, while these balances were actually expended on necessities in places where the owner was not to be found—the very evil the Statute was intended to remedy. In regard to Shanghai, although the ship arrived here on June 5th—seven months ago neither Baessler nor Fong Tai came forward. Mr. Tatlock said: "No one cared about the ship; no one has tried to do anything." Buchheister were put in the dilemma of having to spend more money to preserve the ship, or of seeing her fall to pieces, a prey to thieves and weather.

The only remaining question is: were the items charged necessary in law and are the charges for them reasonable? These questions I refer to the Registrar and Merchants. The Registrar should report what he finds to be necessities, what amounts he allows, and what total he finds chargeable against the ship. In the case of the *London*, Singapore and Shanghai accounts legal necessities can be allowed from the dates respectively when it is proved that if an account had been that day taken reasonable general charges on account of the ship, whether legal necessities or not, would have exhausted the freight received by the agent. Costs reserved.

THE "CRAIK" CHILDREN FUND.

The following contributions have been promised to the fund to provide for the future of the children of the late Mr. Craik, murdered at Kowloon Docks

Sir C. P. Chater	£100.00
Mr N. A. Siebs	100.00
Mr W. J. Gillson	100.00
Mr E. Goetz	100.00
Mr A. Haupt	10.00
Mr H. P. White	100.00
Mr D. W. Craddock	10.00
Mr G. H. Medhurst	100.00
Mr J. S. Van Buren	100.00
Mr S. Silverstone	100.00
Mr H. N. Mody	50.00
Mr Thos. Rose	25.00
Mr W. Wilson	25.00
Mr C. D. Silas	10.00
Mr Alex. C. Squair	5.00
Mr R. Mitchell	15.00
Mr Geo. Smith	10.00
Mr D. Gow	5.00
Mr Thos. Neave	10.00
Mr J. D. Logan	10.00
Mr J. W. Graham	15.00
Mr W. Davison	10.00
Mr J. Guy	5.00
Mr J. Robson	2.00
Mr H. Bliefernicht	5.00
Mr J. Menzies	3.00
Mr A. J. Ward	5.00
Mr W. Hutchison	10.00
Mr R. V. Rutter	10.00
Mr J. C. Gow	3.00
Mr W. Taylor	3.00
Mr J. Pearson	3.00
Mr D. Keith	5.00
Mr S. Smith	3.00
Mr T. Oates	3.00
Mr J. Turpin	2.00
Mr C. Fittock, Jr.	5.00
Mr G. Duncan	2.00
Mr R. Whyte	2.00
Mr J. M. Henderson	5.00
Mr S. Lightfoot	2.00
Mr J. Ponceon	2.00
Mr H. S. Wynne	5.00
Mr J. Gower	2.00
Mr G. White	20.00

Mr J. M. Ramsay	3.00
Mr G. K. Haxton	5.00
Mr J. Tully	5.00
Mr W. F. Ford	5.00
Mr R. Brooks	5.00
Mr C. Crispin	5.00
Mr J. D. Morrison	5.00
Capt. G. Dodds	5.00
Mr H. Blackledge	1.00
Mr E. T. Gomes	5.00
Mr C. F. da Silva	2.00
Mr W. Nicholls	5.00
Mr J. F. Simmond	1.00
Mr C. F. Grey	1.00
Mr Wm. Stewart	5.00
Mr R. Lapsley	3.00
Mr H. Hyndman, Jr.	5.00
Mr H. F. Carmichael	100.00
Mr J. Martin	10.00
Mr J. J. Sibbit	3.00
Mr W. Tulin	5.00
Mr W. G. McBryde	5.00
Mr R. H. Baxter	5.00
Mr. Sai Yee	30.00
Goddard & Douglas	50.00
Mr G. T. Wilson	5.00
Mr A. H. Rennie	50.00
Mr A. Ritchie	20.00
Holzpfels & Comp. Co., Ltd., per R. F. Hume	20.00

MISCELLANEOUS.

Another love tragedy was reported to the police on Jan. 17th. A Chinese girl, 17 years of age, residing with her parents at 11 Gilman Bazaar, committed suicide on Tuesday by taking an overdose of poison. The explanation proffered to the police was that her parents had made arrangements for her marriage to an eligible young man, but the damsel did not approve of her prospective husband, and she sought escape from a hateful union by taking her life.

We are officially authorized to state that subject to audit, the Directors of the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation will recommend at the forthcoming meeting a dividend of £1.15 per share; a bonus of £1 per share; to add to the reserve fund \$750,000, and carry forward about \$1,700,000. Further, the Directors have resolved to approach the Hongkong Government to amend the Bank's Ordinance in order to provide for an increase of capital, and will recommend at an extraordinary general meeting to be called later, the creation of 40,000 new shares of \$125 each to be issued to shareholders at the price of £10 each, at current rate of exchange in the proportion of one new share to two old.

Light on the advance in the cost of living in Japan that has taken place recently is thrown by the following figures from returns prepared by the Department of Agriculture and Commerce:

Year.	Food Stuff.	Clothing	Raw Materials.	Average.
1900	100	100	100	100
1901	93	99	95	97
1902	102	98	92	98
1903	111	100	92	100
1904	124	109	95	108
1905	127	120	100	116

The rise in prices is reported by the authorities to be attributable to the recent war. The following figures of Japan's trade speak for themselves:—

	Exports.	Imports.
1903 Yen	289,502,443	Yen 317,135,518
1904 Yen	319,260,896	Yen 371,360,739
1905 Yen	321,533,610	Yen 483,538,017
1906 Yen	422,593,348	Yen 418,471,401

For the first time in years the balance of trade was in favour of Japan, i.e., the exports were larger than the imports. Now, comparing the figures of 1905 and 1906 we find that while the export increased over 100,000,000 yen, the imports decreased over 70,000,000 yen. The decrease of imports is natural, as the demand created by the war for goods of foreign manufacture subsided, but the increase of exports must certainly be considered a most wholesome sign. Comparing 1906 with 1903, the last year before the war, the exports show an increase of over 133,000,000 yen, while the imports only increased a little over 100,000,000 yen.

COMMERCIAL.

RICE.

SAIGON, 11th January, 1907.—Messrs. G. Hale & Co.'s circular states:—Our market shows signs of firmness under a fairly good demand for China. We quote for February/March delivery:—

No 2 White sifted (<i>trié</i>) steam milled (round)	
No. 2 White unsifted (<i>ordinaire</i>) steam milled (round)	\$3.02
5 % Cargo steam milled (round) ...	\$2.70
10 % Cargo steam milled (round) ...	\$2.65
20 % Cargo steam milled (round) ...	\$2.65

* Prices according to terms and conditions.

OPIUM

HONGKONG, January 19th.

Quotations are:—Allowance net to 1 catty.

Malwa New	\$800	to —	per picul.
Malwa Old	\$880	to —	do.
Malwa Older	\$920	to —	do.
Malwa Very Old	\$960	to —	do.
Persian Fine Quality	\$650	to —	do.
Persian Extra Fine	\$690	to —	do.
Patna New	\$890	to —	per chest.
Patna Old	—	to —	do.
Benares New	\$812½	to —	do.
Benares Old	—	to —	do.

PIECE GOODS.

Messrs. Noel, Murray & Co.'s Report on the Shanghai Piece Goods Trade, dated Shanghai, 10th January, 1907, states:—The market is decidedly quieter, to the disappointment of all, and clearances are likewise less brisk than they have been the last few weeks. It is not easy to account for this, but it is an unmistakable fact the dealers are not so keen as they were to buy. Although home prices, both in New York and Manchester, are still above those ruling here, the difference is not so great as it was, especially with the latter, while the avidity with which the former market offered to supply goods, so soon as enquiries went forth for here, at much earlier dates than was supposed possible judging by the reports so recently promulgated as to the heavy engagements of the manufacturers for the home trade, has shaken the confidence of holders of the heavy stocks, who would much sooner see them reduced rather than commit themselves further. Consequently there is a general desire to unload, but at the same time to avoid a decline in prices. Hence the market is in a very nervous state at the moment, which it will require some, at present unforeseen, movement to calm. A fall in exchange might assist, as it was probably the weakness in that direction during December that caused the recent temporary revival in the demand. The stocks being carried forward to the new season of most of the staple makes are far heavier than they were last year, and will require a great deal of careful handling, so that orders for fresh supplies are to be deprecated, though the desire of the majority of the Import Houses to book new orders must be sympathised with. The current business is still chiefly with the second hand holders, very few of the import houses being in a position to meet what demand there is. In one quarter a further thousand packages or so of previously bought goods have been placed to arrive, and others have replaced recent sales from stock, but for the most part there is only a hand to mouth business doing. The auctions show a good deal of irregularity, but at the same time exhibits considerable firmness where goods are wanted. The Tientsin merchants have been the chief operators this week, their attention being mostly directed to the lighter weight Shirtings, which are generally wanted at this season of the year for making wadded garments. A good demand has sprung up during the last day or two for Indian and Japanese spinnings for Szechuen. Manchester keeps very strong, but there is still a moderate business doing for this market. The consumptive demand for Cotton is apparently keeping prices very firm, the latest Liverpool quotations for Mid-American being 5.96d. for spot and 5.67d. for the rest of the month. Egyptian has, however, unexpectedly declined to 10½d. The export figures for Plain Cottons for December were 31,000,000 yards, making exactly 400,000,000 yards for the twelve months, against 562,000,000 yards in 1905. The total of Dyed Cottons is 164,000,000 yards against 158,200,000 yards and Prints 48,300,000 against 35,200,000 yards. The New York market, fortunately for this, keeps very strong, offers of goods being about 10 per cent

over prices ruling here. Re-exports to Tientsin.—The increase in Japanese spinnings is noticeable. Stocks.—On enquiry this morning we regretted to find the returns of stocks were being sent in very slowly to the Secretary of the Chamber of Commerce. This is very regrettable, as the importance of the returns this year is greater than ever, and it is hoped holders of stocks will endeavour to send them in so that they may be published in our next Circular.

AMOI CUSTOMS RETURNS.

List of the principal goods passed through the Amoy Customs-house from 31st December to 11th January, 4 p.m. 1907.—

IMPORTS.

GOODS.	QUANTITY
Cotton, Raw, Indian	pls. —
“ “ Native	224
“ “ Yarn	441
Shirtings, Grey	pls. 510
T-Cloths	495
Shirtings, White	2,069
T. Red Shirtings	100
Drills	60
Shirtings Dyed, Brocades	275
“ Dyed	337
Damasks	—
Camlets	154
Lasting	14
Spanish Stripes	yds. 577
Lustres, Figured	—
Lead in pigs	pls. 26
Tin in slabs	77
Iron, Nail rod	26
Quicksilver	13
Iron, Old	451
Ironwire	14
Rice	7,534
Opium, Patna	—
“ Benares	75
“ Persian	12
“ Malwa	—
“ Szechuan	22
“ Yunnan	28
“ Kiangsu	—
Sesamum Seed	56
Sapanwood	—
Sandalwood	18
Rattans	31
Wheat	1,884
Flour	15,677
Beans	—
Beans and Peas	7,881
Bicho de Mer	265
Mats, Tea	pes. —
Oil, Kerosene American	gal. —
“ “ Borneo in bulk	1,910
“ “ Russian	—
“ “ Sumatra	—
“ “ Bulk	55,340
Coal	tons —
Tobacco Leaf	pls. 478
Vermicelli	241

EXPORTS.

GOODS.	QUANTITY
Sugar, White	pls. 8
“ Brown	—
“ Candy	137
Hemp Bage	pes. —
“ Sacking	1,260
Paper I Quality	pls. 562
“ II	86
Tobacco, Prepared	29
Kittysols (umbrellas)	pes. —

HONGKONG QUOTATIONS.

HONGKONG, 17th January, 1907.

Apricot	\$10 to
Borax	\$17 .. \$19
Cassia	\$17½ .. —
Cloves	\$17 .. \$36
Camphor	\$175 .. —
Cow Bezoar	\$215 .. \$130
Fennel Seed	\$8 .. \$9
Galangal	\$22½ .. \$4½
Grapes	\$16½ .. —
Kismis	\$17½ .. —
Glue	\$26 .. \$27½
Olibanum	\$4 .. \$13
Oil Sandalwood	\$245 .. \$350
“ Rosa	\$50 .. \$150
“ Cassia	\$177 .. —
Raisins	\$8 .. —
Senna Leaves	— .. —
Sandalwood	\$25 .. \$27
Saltpetre	\$10 .. —

MISCELLANEOUS EXPORTS

Messrs. Arnhold, Karberg & Co.'s Fortnightly Produce Circular, dated Shanghai, 7th January, 1907, States:—Gallnuts.—There is a better demand from home and buyers have paid the prices asked. Cowhides.—A further drop in prices is reported from home and Chinese are slowly following this downward tendency. Tobacco.—There is no change. Feathers.—Prices are a little higher and the good demand from home continues. A fairly good business has been done. Cotton.—Little business done with Europe; market is unchanged. Tallow.—Animal.—No stocks White Vegt.—Our market is firm and Chinese ask higher prices, only a small business done. Green Vegt. No business done, prices asked by the Chinese make business impossible. Straw-braid.—There is hardly any thing doing at present on account of the high prices asked by the Chinese. Goatskin Rugs.—No business reported. Wool.—Sheep's.—Although supplies are increasing prices remain high. Camel's.—Demand improving. Wood Oil.—Our market remains firm. Antimony. Prices asked by the Chinese are too high.

HANKOW, 9th Jan., 1907.—The prices quoted are for the net shipping weight excluding cost of packing for export:—

Cowhides, Best Selected	Tls. 26.00
Do. Seconds	32.50
Buffalo Hides, Best Selected	22.00
Goatskins, untanned, chiefly white colour ..	60.00
Buffalo Horns, average 3-lbs. each	7.00
White China Grass, Wuchang and or Poochi	10.00
White China Grass, Sinshan and or Chayu ..	9.50
Green China Grass, Szechuen	11.50
Jute	5.50
White Vegetable Tallow, Kinchow	9.60
White Vegetable Tallow, Pingchow ..	9.30
and or Macheng	9.00
White Vegetable Tallow, Mongyu	11.50
Green Vegetable Tallow, Kiyu	9.50
Animal Tallow	14.00
Gallnuts, usual shape	16.30
Do. Plum do.	6.50
Tobacco, Tingchow	9.00
Do. Woukang	5.25
Turmeric	5.30
Sesamum Seed	10.20
Sesamum Seed Oil	8.40
Wood Oil	10.00
Tea Oil	—

Per steamer Kzenmu, sailed on 2nd January For Havre:—278 bales canes. For Havre or London or Hamburg:—40 boxes camphor, 17 bales canes. For London:—1,983 bags ore, 208 cases shells, 718 bales canes, 846 rolls mats and matting, 57 cases chinaware, 100 casks soy, 50 casks preserves, 500 cases preserves, 132 bales feathers. For London or Glasgow:—500 cases preserves, 200 casks preserves. For London, Glasgow or Leith:—150 cases preserves. For London, Glasgow or Dundee:—150 cases preserves. For Swansea:—108 bags ore. For London, Antwerp or Hamburg:—500 cases merchandise. For London, Hamburg or Antwerp:—30 boxes bristles. For Amsterdam:—220 rolls matting. For Rotterdam:—300 rolls matting. For Antwerp:—862 bags ore, 100 bales feathers, 85 cases gallnuts.

Per P. & O. steamer Nubia, sailed on 6th Jan. For Manchester:—151 bales waste silk. For Liverpool:—400 bales hemp. For Glasgow:—2 cases gongs, 3 cases chinaware, 2 cases woodware. For Copenhagen:—6 cases cigars. For Genoa:—1 case cigars. For Buenos Ayres:—1 case curios, 2 cases joss sticks. For Marseilles:—1 case cigars, 1 case hats, 5 bales tobacco, 10 cases cartharides. For London:—1,450 bales hemp, 1,844 packages tea, 195 bales canes, 1 case books, 150 casks preserves, 250 packages merchandise, 101 cases camphor, 1,892 rolls matting, 7 cases curios, 3 boxes personal effects, 554 packages sundries.

Per P. & O. steamer Simla, sailed on 12th Jan. For London:—13 cases silk piece goods, 31 bales waste silk, 2 packages old documents, 2 cases feathers, 2 cases chinaware, 2 cases blackwoodware, 4 cases personal effects, 1 case pictures, 1 case cigars, 6 packages iron ore. For Gibraltar:—1 case curios. For Marseilles:—100 bales waste silk, 349 bales pierced cocoons, 115 bales raw silk, 6 cases feathers, 3 cases hats, 1 case embroidery. For Lyons:—20 bales raw silk.

SHARE REPORTS.

HONGKONG, 18th January, 1907.—The market has been comparatively active, and a fair business has been transacted. Rates show many important improvements, especially in Hongkong and Shanghai Banks, which on the announcement of a new issue of capital boomed considerably. Exchange on London: T T 2/2½. On Shanghai Tls. 73

BANKS.—Hongkong and Shanghai, which closed last week at \$835, changed hands in the early part of the week at \$840 and \$845, in small lots, and some forward sales were made for March at \$845 and \$865. On the official announcement of a new issue of shares to shareholders now on the register at £30, the rate rapidly rose without sales to \$950, at which some few shares changed hands. The London rate rose from £97 to £115, and as high a rate as £120 was received by private advices. At time of closing the rates are easier, with London at £112, and local sellers at \$950. Nationals remain unchanged and without business. The Hongkong and Shanghai Bank announces a dividend of 35s, and a bonus of £1 final for 1906, places \$750,000 to reserve, and carries forward \$1,700,000.

MARINE INSURANCES.—Quotations have been in demand, and with no sellers the rate has risen to \$770 with buyers and no sales to report. North Chinas have fallen to \$80 without sales. Cantons and Yangtszes remain unchanged and without business.

FIRE INSURANCES.—Hongkong Fires have ruled strong, and with an unsatisfied demand at \$345 the rate quickly rose to \$365, at which a few shares changed hands, the market closing strong with sales at the further improved rate of \$375. Chinas have also improved, and after sales at \$94 and 94½ close with buyers at \$95.

SHIPPING.—Hongkong, Canton and Macao remained quiet during the early part of the week, and only small sales were effected at \$30, sellers ruling the market. At time of closing, however, a firmer tone is apparent, and a demand at \$30 is not meeting with a ready response. Indos have been placed at \$86 and \$87, closing nominally at the latter rate. Star Ferries have improved to \$30 with sales and close with further buyers, while the new issue has been placed and is enquired for at \$20. Shells are looking a little steadier, and although we have no sales to report there are no sellers at the time of closing. We have nothing further to report under this heading.

REFINERIES.—China Sugars show an improvement, and after small sales at \$124 and \$125 a few small lots are wanted at \$128. Luzons remain unchanged and without business.

MINING.—Raubs have been placed during the week at \$8½ and \$8½, closing with sellers at \$9. Charbonnages remain without business.

DOCKS, WHARVES AND GODOWNS.—Hongkong and Whampoa Docks have found buyers at the improved rate of \$148 and \$149, but at time of closing the market is weaker at \$148, with sellers. Kowloon Wharves continue steady but without business. New Amoy Docks have further declined to \$14 without business. Shanghai Docks have improved to Tls. 107 after sales at Tls. 104 and Tls. 105, closing steady at the first named rate.

LANDS, HOTELS AND BUILDINGS.—Hongkong Lands continue steady at \$110 with buyers. West Point, after a long period of inactivity, are enquired for at \$50. Hongkong Hotels, with a demand at \$112 and no sellers to meet it, have improved to \$114½ with buyers. Sellers still holding off in the expectation of higher rates. Humphreys have been placed at \$12 and close steady at that rate. Shanghai Lands have improved to Tls. 103.

COTTON MILLS.—Ewos have advanced in the North to \$71, and Internationals have declined to \$61. Hongkong Cottons show a decline to \$11½ with sellers.

MISCELLANEOUS.—China Providents have ruled strong, and a demand at \$9½ meeting with no response the rate rose to \$9½ with buyers, at which the market closes steady to strong. Green Islands have changed hands in fair lots at \$21 and \$21½, closing with buyers at the former and

sellers at the latter rate. Electrics have been placed at the improved rate of \$15½ and \$16, closing with further buyers at the former rate. Ice is in a small demand at the improved rate of \$235, but we have heard of no sales. China Lights and Hongkong Ropes have changed hands at quotations. We have nothing further to report.

Quotations are as follows:—

COMPANY.	PAID UP	QUOTATIONS.
Alhambra	\$200	\$120
Banks—		
Hongkong & Shanghai	\$125	\$950
National B. of China		London, £112
A. Shares	£6	\$49, buyers
Bell's Asbestos E. A.	12s. 6d.	\$7, sellers
China-Borneo Co.	\$12	\$10, sellers
China Light & P. Co.	\$10	\$9½, buyers
China Provident	\$10	\$1½, buyers
Cotton Mills—		
Ewo	Tls. 50	Tls. 71
Hongkong	\$10	\$11½, sales
International	Tls. 75	Tls. 61
Laou Kung Mow	Tls. 100	Tls. 103
Soychee	Tls. 500	Tls. 335
Dairy Farm	\$6	\$16½
Docks & Wharves—		
H. & K. Wharf & G.	\$50	\$96
H. & W. Dock	\$50	\$148
New Amoy Dock	\$6½	\$14, sellers
Shanghai Dock and		
Eng. Co. Ltd	Tls. 100	Tls. 107
Shanghai & H. Wharf ..	100	Tls. 235, x. n. issue
		Tls. 225, n. issue
Fenwick & Co., Geo.	\$25	\$21, sellers
G. Island Cement	\$10	\$21, buyers
Hongkong & C. Gas	\$10	\$175, buyers
Hongkong Electric	\$10	\$15½, buyers
H. H. L. Tramways	\$100	\$215
Hongkong Hotel Co.	\$50	\$114½, buyers
Hongkong Ice Co.	\$25	\$235, buyers
Hongkong Rope Co.	\$10	\$21, sales & sellers
H'kong S. Waterboat	\$10	\$7, sellers
Insurances—		
Canton	\$50	\$297½, sellers
China Fire	\$20	\$95, buyers
China Traders	\$25	\$90
Hongkong Fire	\$50	\$375, buyers
North China	\$5	Tls. 80
Union	\$100	\$770, buyers
Yangtsze	\$60	\$160, sellers
Land and Buildings—		
H'kong Land Invest.	\$100	\$110, buyers
Humphreys' Estate	\$10	\$12
Kowloon Land & B.	\$30	\$38
Shanghai Land	(Tls. 50 Tls. 103)	
West Point Building	(Tls. 25 Tls. 61, n. issue)	
	\$50	\$50, buyers
Mining—		
Charbonnages	Fcs. 250	\$450, nominal
Raubs	18 10	\$9
Philippine Co.	\$10	\$5
Refineries—		
China Sugar	\$100	\$128, buyers
Luzon Sugar	\$100	\$21, sellers
Steamship Companies		
China and Manila	\$25	\$22, sellers
Douglas Steamship	\$50	\$36, sellers
H. Canton & M.	\$15	\$30, buyers
Indo-China S. N. Co.	\$10	\$87
Shell Transport Co.	\$1	\$30
Star Ferry	\$10	\$30, buyers
Do. New	\$5	\$20, sales & buyers
South China M. Post.	\$25	\$24
Steam Laundry Co.	\$5	\$5½
Stores & Dispensaries		
Campbell, M. & Co.	\$10	\$30, sellers
Powell & Co., Wm.	\$10	\$8, sellers
Watkins	\$10	\$250, sales
Watson & Co., A. S.	\$10	\$12
United Asbestos	\$4	\$10, buyers
Do. Founders	\$10	\$150

VERNON & SMYTH Brokers.

Messrs. J. P. Bisset & Co.'s Share Report, for the week ending January 10th, 1907, states:—There has been an improvement in the prices of all leading stocks since the beginning of the year, with the exception of Indos, which fell 10 points after the Settlement. Shanghai Docks were also easier, closing with buyers at Tls. 103. Banks.—Hongkong and Shanghai Banks. A fair business has been done in Banks at improving rates, a good number of shares having been put through at \$45 for March. Hongkong quotes \$330 buyers, and the London prices is £94.17s 6d. The T. T. on London to-day is 3/4. Marine and Fire Ins.—No business reported. Yangtszes. Shares are wanted at \$160, no shares being obtainable at that rate; and Hongkong quotes Unions \$760 buyers. Shipping.—Indos are offering at Tls. 61 cash and business has been done at Tls. 62 March. Tug & Lighter Co. Shares are in strong demand at Tls. 55½ with no shares obtainable at this rate. Docks and Wharves.—Business is reported in Shanghai Docks at Tls. 103 cash, 105 January, Tls. 101 March, and Tls. 103 March, closing with buyers at Tls. 103 for cash and March. Shanghai and Hongkong Wharves. A large business has been done in Wharves at good rates, quotations being for the old cum new Tls. 242½ cash, Tls. 247½ 248½ 252½ and 250 for March, and Tls. 260 for April. Business has been done in the old shares ex new at Tls. 232½, and new shares at Tls. 222½, these latter rates being the market. Sugar.—No business reported. Lands.—There is a strong demand for Land Shares, the market closing with business at Tls. 62 for the new shares and Tls. 102 for the old shares. Mining.—Kaiping are wanted at Tls. 10.75. Industrial.—Cotton Mills were again active, Laou Kung Mows and Internationals being a little easier, while Ewos improved in price to Tls. 70 for January, Tls. 72 for March. Laou Kung Mows. A few shares are offering at Tls. 103 for cash, and Internationals at Tls. 62. Maatschappij, &c. in Langkats. Business is reported at Tls. 247½, 250, Tls. 251½ and Tls. 247 1/3 March. Sumatras are in strong demand, no shares being obtainable at Tls. 90, while business was done at Tls. 95 for March. Stores and Hotels. Hotel des Colonies have changed hands at \$15, and Hall & Holtz at \$23. Miscellaneous.—An operation is reported in Shanghai Electric and Asbestos Shares at \$24, and Telephones are on offer at \$60. Loans and Debentures.—Business has been done at Tls. 97, in Shanghai Land 6 per cent., Debs. and at Tls. 98, in Shanghai and Hongkong Wharf Debs.

EXCHANGE.

MONDAY, Jan. 21st.

ON LONDON.—Telegraphic Transfer	2/2½
Bank Bills, on demand	2/2½
Bank Bills, at 30 days' sight	2/2½
Bank Bills, at 4 months' sight	2/2½
Credits, at 4 months' sight	2/3½
Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight	2/3½
ON PARIS.—Bank Bills, on demand	250
Credits 4 months' sight	284½
ON GERMANY.	
On demand	228
ON NEW YORK.—Bank Bills, on demand	54
Credits, 60 days' sight	55
ON BOMBAY.	
Telegraphic Transfer	164½
Bank, on demand	165
ON CALCUTTA.—Telegraphic Transfer	164½
Bank, on demand	165
ON SHANGHAI.—Bank, at sight	73
Private, 30 days' sight	73½
ON YOKOHAMA.—On demand	108½
ON MANILA.—On demand	108½
ON SINGAPORE.—On demand	6 p.m.
ON BATAVIA.—On demand	133½
ON HAIPHONG.—On demand	1½ p.m.
ON SAIGON.—On demand	1½ p.m.
ON BANGKOK.—On demand	68½
SEVEN SIGNS, Bank's Buying Rate	\$9.00
GOLD LEAF, 100 fine, per tael	\$47.3
BAR SILVER, per oz.	31½0

FREIGHT.

Messrs. Wheelock & Co.'s Freight Market Report, dated Shanghai, 7th January, 1907, has the following:—As was only to be expected there has been very little doing on our homeward freight market during the past fortnight, and there is nothing special to report except that the last boat on the New York berth via Suez was heavily over-engaged, owing to an unexpected rush of tea. Coastwise.—This market is also pretty much in the same state as at last time of writing. There is no demand worth speaking of in any direction, whilst tonnage seeking employment is plentiful and likely to remain so until next March.

SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES SINCE LAST MAIL.

January—

ARRIVALS.

- 10, Derwent, British str., from Saigon.
 10, Glenfalloch, British str., from Singapore.
 10, Numantis, German str., from Portland.
 10, Progress, German str., from Cebu.
 10, Cheongmo, Korean str., from Kuchinotsu.
 11, Yangonghing, British str., from Saigon.
 11, China, American str., from San Francisco.
 11, Helene, German str., from Swatow.
 11, Iyo Maru, Japanese str., from Moji.
 11, Sado Maru, Japanese str., from London.
 11, Taming, British str., from Manila.
 11, Tinhaw, British str., from Saigon.
 12, Ambria, German str., from Shanghai.
 12, Benlarig, British str., from London.
 12, Canton Maru, Japanese str., from Kobe.
 12, Childar, Norwegian str., from Bangkok.
 12, Hinsang, British str., from Amoy.
 12, Kohsichang, German str., from Bangkok.
 12, Kwanglee, Chinese str., from Shanghai.
 12, Samsen, German str., from Bangkok.
 12, Shaohsing, British str., from Shanghai.
 12, Taishan, British str., from Saigon.
 13, Haiching, British str., from Swatow.
 13, Hailan, French str., from Pakhoi.
 13, Keongwai, German str., from Bangkok.
 13, Macduff, British str., from Birkhead.
 13, Peleus, British str., from Liverpool.
 13, Soshu Maru, Japanese str., from Shanghai.
 14, Emp. of India, Brit. str., from Vancouver.
 14, Hue, French str., from Haiphong.
 14, Quarta, German str., from Coast Ports.
 14, Seydlitz, German str., from Yokohama.
 14, Wosang, British str., from Wuhu.
 14, Yuensang, British str., from Manila.
 15, Zafiro, British str., from Manila.
 15, Anghin, German str., from Bangkok.
 15, Choysang, British str., from Shanghai.
 15, Haitan, British str., from Coast Ports.
 15, Heimdal, Norwegian str., from Saigon.
 15, Kaifong, British str., from Cebu.
 15, Labor, Norw. str., from Wakamatsu.
 15, Mausang, British str., from Sandakan.
 15, Nord, Norwegian str., from Hilo.
 15, Nubia, British str., from Yokohama.
 15, Ronto, Norwegian str., from Hoihow.
 15, Wakamatsu Maru, Jap. str., from Moji.
 16, Ceylon Maru, Jap. str., from Shanghai.
 16, Chowtai, German str., from Bangkok.
 16, Clara Jebson, German str., from Haiphong.
 16, Derawongae, German str., from Anghin.
 16, Glamorganshire British str., from London.
 16, Kiangching, Chinese str., from Chinkiang.
 16, Kwanglee, Chinese str., from Shanghai.
 16, Laisang, British str., from Calcutta.
 16, Masan Maru, Japanese str., from Tamsui.
 16, Nord, British str., from Singapore.
 16, Pingsuey, British str., from Shanghai.
 16, Sambia, German str., from Hamburg.
 16, S. v. Langkat, Dutch str., from Sumatra.
 16, Tjipinas, Dutch str., from Amoy.
 16, Yochow, British str., from Shanghai.
 17, Dott, Norwegian str., from Shanghai.
 17, Gneisanau, German str., from Hamburg.
 17, Knivsberg, German str., from Fanning.
 17, Manila, German str., from Sydney.
 17, Marco Polo, Italian str., from Shanghai.
 17, Taiyuan, British str., from Melbourne.
 17, Ulv, Norwegian str., from Saigon.
 17, Yuunan, British str., from Chefoo.
 18, Ailsacraig, British str., from Mororan.
 18, Haliotes, Dutch str., from Amoy.
 18, Hanoi French str., from Haiphong.
 18, Holstein, British str., from Moncohe.
 18, Kanju Maru, Japanese str., from Kobe.
 18, Michael Jebson, Ger. str., from Haiphong.
 18, Nyanza, British str., from London.
 18, Phenpenh, British str., from Saigon.
 18, Tean, British str., from Manila.
 18, Victoria, Chinese str., from Chefoo.
 19, Achilles, British str., from Shanghai.
 19, Algoa, French cruiser, from Saigon.
 19, Amigo, German str., from Hoihow.
 19, Chingtu, British str., from Kuchinotsu.
 19, Frithjof, Norwegian str., from Tourane.
 19, Fukura Maru, Japanese str., from Moji.
 19, Fukushima Maru, Jap. str., from Anping.
 19, Glenturret, British str., from London.
 19, Hikosan Maru, Jap. str., from K'notsu.
 19, Hongbee, British str., from Singapore.
 19, Indradeo, British str., from Sydney.
 19, Mongolia, Amr. str., from San Francisco.
 19, Satsuma, British str., from Shanghai.
 19, Taikosan Maru, Jap. str., from K'notsu.

January—

DEPARTURES.

- 11, Arcadia, British str., for Shanghai.
 11, Daiya Maru, Japanese str., for Moji.
 11, Fooksang, British str., for Calcutta.
 11, Fokushu Maru, Japanese str., for Swatow.
 11, Haimun, British str., for Coast Ports.
 11, Hehenstaufer, German str., for Hamburg.
 11, Ledson, Norwegian str., for T'angoon.
 11, Loongsang, British str., for Manila.
 11, Taisang, British str., for Shanghai.
 11, Triumph, German str., for Haiphong.
 11, Yawata Maru, Japanese str., for Moji.
 12, Diadem, British cruiser, for home.
 12, First Bismarck, Ger. ship, for Bangkok.
 12, Luels, German gunboat, for Bangkok.
 12, Helene, German str., for Hoihow.
 12, Jacob Diederichsen, Ger. str., for Macao.
 12, Kutsang, British str., for Calcutta.
 12, Lyra, American str., for Tacoma.
 12, Rubi, British str., for Manila.
 12, Sado Maru, Japanese str., for Yokohama.
 12, Signal, German str., for Swatow.
 12, Simla, British str., for Europe.
 12, Sunking, British str., for Amoy.
 13, Ambria, German str., for Hamburg.
 13, Arrow, British str., for Newcastle.
 13, Glenfalloch, British str., for Amoy.
 13, Hongkong, French str., for Haiphong.
 13, Josin Maru, Japanese str., for Tamsui.
 13, Kiukiang, British str., for Shanghai.
 13, Progress, German str., for Saigon.
 13, Standard, Norwegian str., for Saigon.
 13, Meefoo, Chinese str., for Shanghai.
 13, Reutling, British str., for Nagasaki.
 13, Hailan, French str., for Hoihow.
 13, Hangsang, British str., for Shanghai.
 13, Hinsen, British str., for Moji.
 13, Ischia, Italian str., for Bombay.
 13, Itaka, German str., for Saigon.
 13, Macduff, British str., for Shanghai.
 13, Numantis, German str., for Portland.
 13, Paklat, German str., for Bangkok.
 13, Polus, British str., for Shanghai.
 13, Siberia, Amr. str., for San Francisco.
 13, Taki Maru, Japanese str., for Rangoon.
 13, Taming, British str., for Manila.
 13, Yangmoo, Korean str., for Moji.
 13, Carl Diederichsen, Ger. str., for Haiphong.
 13, Kasima Maru, Japanese str., for Anping.
 13, Kuichow, British str., for Saigon.
 13, Nichiei Maru, Japanese str., for Moji.
 13, Ningpo, British str., for Chefoo.
 13, Nubia, British str., for London.
 13, Paoting, British str., for Shanghai.
 13, Pronto, Norwegian str., for Haiphong.
 13, Seydlitz, German str., for Europe.
 13, Canton Maru, Japanese str., for Kobe.
 13, Emp. of China, British str., for Vancouver.
 13, Foksjø, Norwegian str., for Saigon.
 13, Haitan, British str., for Coast Ports.
 13, Koun Maru, Japanese str., for Kobe.
 13, Kwanglee, Chinese str., for Shanghai.
 13, Pingsuey, British str., for Liverpool.
 13, Providence, Norw. str., for Haiphong.
 13, Rajah, German str., for Bangkok.
 13, Soshu Maru, Japanese str., for Shanghai.
 13, S. v. Langkat, Dutch str., for Swatow.
 13, Taiwan, British str., for Saigon.
 13, Wuhu, British str., for Shanghai.
 13, Ceylon Maru, Japanese str., for Bombay.
 13, Cheongshing, British str., for Saigon.
 13, Childar, Norwegian str., for Bangkok.
 13, Glamorganshire, Brit. str., for Shanghai.
 13, Gneisanau, German str., for Shanghai.
 13, Kohsichang, German str., for Swatow.
 13, Nord, British str., for Shanghai.
 13, Onang, British str., for Calcutta.
 13, Suzu, Russian str., for Bangkok.
 13, Yuensang, British str., for Manila.
 13, Clara Jebson, German str., for Haiphong.
 13, Hue, French str., for Haiphong.
 13, J. Diederichsen, German str., for Swatow.
 13, Keongwai, German str., for Hoihow.
 13, Knivsberg, German str., for Macao.
 13, Lydia, German str., for Saigon.
 13, Nyanza, British str., for Shanghai.
 13, Simla, British str., for Shanghai.
 13, Taishan, British str., for Swatow.
 13, Tinhaw, British str., for Saigon.
 13, Tjipinas, Dutch str., for Macassar.
 13, Wosang, British str., for Shanghai.

- 19, Zafiro, British str., for Manila.
 20, Haiching, British str., for Coast Ports.
 20, Huichow, British str., for Cebu.
 20, Kiyo Maru, Japanese str., for Saigon.
 20, Laertes, British str., for Saigon.
 20, Masan Maru, Japanese str., for Tamsui.
 20, Michael Jebson, Ger. str., for Haiphong.
 20, Wakamatsu Maru, Jap. str., for Moji.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per *Nubia*, from Yokohama for London, Mr. and Mrs. R. St. J. Corbet and Mr. R. E. B. Widen; from Shanghai, Mrs. King and infant, Miss Pownall, Mrs. J. H. Brown, Mrs. Amelunxen, and Mr. E. Manns.

Per *Sinla*, from Shanghai for Hongkong, Col. Sargt. Cole, Pt. Writer Brown, Corpl. Bennett, Messrs. A. E. Lanning, Tagmull, Levi, F. H. Melbye, Irving and Abraham Jacob; for Singapore, Dr. Moore, Mr. S. H. T. Rogers; for Brindisi, Mr. Rizzo; for London, Rev. and Mrs. Hudson, 3 children and infant, Mr. and Mrs. Porter, Miss Howard, Messrs. E. K. Iner, A. C. Kennedy, T. B. Townley and E. M. Knox; from Yokohama for Bombay, Mr. and Mrs. Wilson, 2 children and governess.

Per *China*, from San Francisco, &c., Mr. and Mrs. P. V. Aloiser, Mr. and Mrs. Lichtig, Mrs. M. L. Honkins, Mrs. W. W. Boreham, Mrs. T. Mitchell, Mrs. F. S. Wilson and infant, Miss E. V. Fleet, Miss L. O'Meara, Capt. E. F. McClachlin, Messrs. T. M. Davillbiss, P. C. Hays, W. B. Jamison, J. Bruins, F. H. Willyoung, E. W. Forbes, P. Jardin and R. N. McLean.

Per *Empress of India*, from Vancouver, Mr. and Mrs. R. Shewan and infant, Major C. S. Paton, Dr. Elizabeth Matthews, Capt. F. V. Dunbar, Mr. E. M. Salesby; from Shanghai, Dr. J. D. Monteith, Messrs. R. H. Foxwell, J. Harvie, E. Hamilton Sharp, and A. T. Phillips.

Per *Seydlitz*, from Kobe, Mr. G. W. H. Albers; from Shanghai, Baronin C. Vaellia di Coarozza, Mr. L. Manos, Mr. and Mrs. Lancelot Giles, Mrs. G. S. Dig, Mr. E. Mayer, Mr. and Mrs. Brewer and child, Masters Haas (3), Mr. C. Katz, Mr. and Mrs. Xavier and child.

Per *Gneisanau*, from Hamburg, Dr. and Mrs. G. Plath, Miss Gertrud Ippen, and Mr. Jorgen Bruhn; from Southampton, Messrs. E. C. Lewis, W. D. Patterson and John Macgregor; from Genoa, Mr. Harry Streiff-Usteri and family, Consul Dr. and Mrs. F. Grunewald, and Mr. Johnson, from Aden, Mr. Antonio Augusto Pacheco; from Colombo, Miss E. M. Jeffree, Consul and Mrs. Volpicelli, and Mr. John Pouten; from Penang, Mr. J. Scherrer and Consul Cheah Choon Sang; from Singapore, Messrs. J. Schwartz, C. B. Bennett, Frank Wilson, Samuel Wilson, Dr. and Mrs. F. Martin, Dr. Souza, Messrs. A. C. Davison, Rama, B. Arthur, C. Wijesuriya and G. F. Devero.

DEPARTED.

Per *Sinla*, from Hongkong, for London, &c., Dr. A. D. Wilkison, Messrs. V. E. Hall, Lionel H. Green, Guy F. Cobbold, R. N. McLean; for Marseilles, R. Mitchell; for Brindisi via India, Mr. and Mrs. R. J. Campbell, Miss Byrnes, Mr. H. Byrnes; for Singapore, Rev. M. A. Cardoso, Messrs. L. Engel, W. D. Graham, and E. W. N. Carpenter.

Per *Siberia*, for San Francisco, &c., Dr. and Mrs. Mowat and daughter, Lieut. G. M. Hill, R. N., Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Cory, Mr. and Mrs. H. E. Hayward, Mr. and Mrs. A. H. Mancell and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. G. Brocheton, Mrs. Jackson and infant, Lieut. and Mrs. A. E. Watson, U.S.A., Capt. J. M. Robinson, Messrs. E. C. Kunde, J. S. Van Buren, F. H. Buck, Jr., P. R. Dickson, J. P. Macdonald, and E. de Bavier.

Per *Empress of China*, for Vancouver, &c., Hon. and Mrs. S. W. Nickerson, Comdr. and Mrs. Blake, Major and Mrs. Foster, Dr. Moorhead, Messrs. M. Manove, Geo. V' Ayes, L. Midwood, N. T. McLean, John Paulsen, Gowland, G. A. Richardson and Jas. Hardie.

Per *Gneisanau*, for Shanghai, Messrs. A. Callarato, Hauer, H. Pearce, C. Roza, Buse, Dautoni, W. Roberts, H. Swiredeff, Mrs. Rapaport, and Mrs. Kelyroh; for Nagasaki, Misses Gruzmann and Mr. Davidow; for Kobe, Messrs. H. Figge and T. Chesan.

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